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USSR Report

POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL AFFAIRS

No. 1361

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INTERNATIONAL

HUNDREDS OF AFGHAN YOUTH VACATION IN TURKMENISTAN

Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 21 Aug 82 p 3

[Article by Turkmen INFORM correspondent Ye. Prikhod'ko: "Children's Friendship Town"]

[Text] "Andrey!" the Pioneer leader loudly called to a lad who seemed to be the center of all activity in the Pioneer room. The chairman of the 12th Detachment at the Druzhba [Friendship] Pioneer Camp is a respected individual: he helps put together the wall newspaper, helps give instruction on playing the bugle, and will think up an interesting topic for a fun quiz game.

A moment later he came over to us: energetic and smart in appearance, with lively, sparkling eyes. He looks something like Timur in the book by Arkadiy Gaydar. But his neckerchief is tricolored, like the flag of his homeland, Afghanistan, which flutters over the Pioneer camp alongside the flags of the Soviet Union and the Turkmen Republic. Twelve-year-old Andrey is one of 266 Afghan boys and girls who are in Firyuza at the invitation of the government of the Turkmen SSR to rest and restore their energy at this children's health camp.

We introduced ourselves to Gulmakhmad Khayrmamad -- Afghan Andrey -- without an interpreter, and he told us, speaking in Russian, how he had come to have this second name -- a symbol of the friendship and brotherhood of the two peoples.

Gulmakhmad lives in the province of Badakhshan. He is in the fifth grade. Up until recently courage was required in his homeland just to be enrolled in school: the enemies of the April Revolution are still trying to keep the republic's young people from attending school. But at the worst moments of crisis, the Afghan people felt the support and help of their closest neighbor. And Khayrmamad's family found such a faithful friend in the person of one of the Soviet construction experts, with whom Gulmakhmad's uncle was working. The Russian language was frequently heard in their home. The family members began calling their son by the same first name as the emissary from the Soviet Union.

After arriving in the USSR, this young Afghan Pioneer met a great many people whom he would like to emulate, in order to benefit his homeland. He will long remember get-togethers with artists, composers, and leading workers -- honored guests at the Druzhba Camp. At this camp Andrey from Badashkhan has learned about the deeds of Soviet Pioneers during the years of the Great Patriotic War -- their portraits line the camp's main avenue.

On 19 August, Afghanistan's national holiday -- Restoration of Independence Day -- the Druzhba Pioneer Camp became a huge stage, where the voices of children from the two countries merged in a single chorus, becoming a unified voice for peace, for the sun, and for clear skies, a voice turned toward the world. A political song review was held at the camp. They sang "Buchenwald Alarm", "Democratic Youth Anthem," "Sunny Circle," and "We Shall Give the Earth to the Children" in the Russian language.

On that day the doyra in the frail child's hands of Mamed Gulom, the best musician in the camp, truly sounded an alarm signal. He had already experienced true grief -- just as is the case with many Afghan children, his father was killed defending the republic against its enemies.

Here the children learn about a different world -- a bright and joyous world. This world contains the bubbling and flowing cascades of fountains which they have seen on excursions to the Turkmen capital. This world spins in the whirl of dances learned in the choreographic section. It presents a smile from meeting a cuddly little stuffed bear who was "born" of strips of cloth in the stuffed toys craft circle. Incidentally, this amusing and heartwarming cartoon hero now has dozens of twins here: the children decided to take home this favorite character to remember the Druzhba Camp by. Here the children have felt the joy of creating, the strength of muscles and, most important, the shoulder of dependable and faithful friends.

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CSO: 1830/58

CIA CONTROL OF WESTERN MEDIA IN ANTI-SOVIET CAMPAIGN ALLEGED

Moscow INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS in English No 11, Nov 82 pp 74-80

[Article by Y. Nalin: "The Big Lie of the Century ("Soviet Threat" Myth and Imperialist Propaganda)"]

[Text] The ideological struggle in the world today centres round the problem of peace as the crucial condition of social progress and mutually beneficial cooperation between states. Hundreds of millions of people in various parts of the globe have responded with profound satisfaction and understanding to the series of large-scale Soviet initiatives aimed at eliminating the threat of nuclear war and ensuring a lasting world peace.

Losing the battle for people's hearts and minds, the aggressive circles of the United States and NATO made another ideological move recently. Speaking in British Parliament during his European tour, US President Reagan announced the start of a new "crusade" against the Soviet Union and socialism, which "will leave Marxism-Leninism on the ash heap of history".

Such overt use of the old ideological and psychological arsenal, which in the past six and a half decades has on many occasions proved utterly ineffective, is indicative of the bankruptcy of bourgeois ideology which has found itself unable to offer an alternative to socialism attractive enough to the Western public. Hence the stake on political and military confrontation with the socialist community, with ideology being used mainly to justify a new round of the arms race, provocation of enmity and hatred, and militaristic hysteria in the cold war spirit.

However, power politics and the drive for military superiority over socialism clearly do not enjoy the backing of world public opinion, which is placing the Western propaganda machine in a tight spot. Having declared an "ideological war" against the Soviet Union and making it a matter of state policy, it is trying in vain at least to justify the political volte-face. The spiritual poverty of the apologists of the moribund social system manifests itself once again here: they can offer nothing but the unproved and unvarying assertion about an increased "Soviet threat".

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The "Soviet threat" myth is not new and can be traced back to the time the Soviet Union was founded. In fact, it underlies the long-term propaganda doctrine of imperialism. Initially, the myth was presented as a "red" or "Bolshevik" danger. Lenin wrote on that score: "Some foolish people are shouting about red militarism. These are political crooks who pretend that they believe this absurdity and throw charges of this kind

right and left, exercising their lawyers' skill in concocting plausible arguments and in throwing dust in the eyes of the masses."[1]

This characteristic of "political crooks" has not lost its meaning. Intimidation by a "Soviet threat" in the struggle against socialism is a "universal method" of imperialist reaction. It is used most vigorously when contradictions in the capitalist world are aggravated and the ruling circles of imperialist states cannot cope with the difficulties inherent in the capitalist system. This method was used by those who contemplated an aggression against the USSR way back before World War II. The spectres of "red danger" and "a threat from the East" have always been used by the expansionist circles in the West to cover up their own hegemonistic claims in keeping with the traditional imperialist policy of world domination.

In our day the "Soviet threat" myth has acquired the significance of a general ideological platform for the consolidation of all forces of world reaction: the military-industrial complexes of the United States and NATO, fascist and dictatorial regimes, other reactionary forces. This ideological sabotage is unparalleled in the scope and intensity of using the material and technical means by various propaganda services.

The fact that the massive campaign around a "Soviet threat" has swelled to immense proportions, that it is coordinated and synchronized, has multi-purpose and long-term goals and is supervized by the men in the higher echelons of power in capitalist countries—all this gives us reason to state that the new ideological sabotage against the USSR had been prepared in advance: Western Sovietologists had elaborated the main arguments and theses around the "Soviet threat" myth to be used in due time. Even before the main propaganda forces were brought into play, the bourgeois mass media were already being coached to fulfil this task by conducting "tactical" operations, so to speak.

Over the past years, the press, radio and TV in the West have been reiterating the same propaganda cliches about the buildup of the Soviet military potential which allegedly exceeds the USSR's defence needs: about Soviet nuclear missile superiority, a Soviet naval threat, an "immense" Soviet superiority in conventional arms, specifically tanks, and a "prospect" of their invasion of Western Europe, "plans" to seize the oilfields in the Persian Gulf, and about "militarization of Soviet society".

It is not hard to see a direct connection between the foreign policy moves of the US Administration and the NATO leadership towards the worsening of the international climate, the escalation of the arms race and torpedoing detente, on the one hand, and the tasks set before the mass media of the West to give this policy a propaganda backing, on the other. The bourgeois mass media spare no effort to bring home to the public the idea that the USSR is to blame for the worsening of Soviet-American relations, for the general deterioration of the world political climate, that the negative turn in world politics was caused by Soviet "expansionist ambitions". Western propaganda displays enviable zeal trying to convince the world that frenzied militarism, the turn of the USA to the cold war tactics and open confrontation with the socialist world are justified and necessary.

It is appropriate to recall here an example from history. Getting ready for the sanguinary war, Hitler declared: "I must keep the gentlemen from Versailles in constant suspense in the face of the Bolshevik threat. I want to make them believe that national-socialist Germany is the only remaining bastion to stop the red torrent." The situation today is different,

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[1] V. I. Lenin, *Collected Works*, Vol. 29, p. 66.

of course, from that between the wars. But as in those years, today the myth of a "threat from the East" and "Soviet expansionism" has served one and the same foreign-policy aims of the imperialists and invariably created international tension.

An infuriated bear, wearing a Russian fur-cap with a red star, grinning blood-thirstily from the Paris *L'Express* magazine; TV viewers on both sides of the Atlantic are shown a "true-to-life" landing of Soviet troops now in Alaska, now on the shores of the English Channel, and similar nonsense. The spread of the war hysteria, fear and a feeling of insecurity is caused by the incessant land and naval exercises conducted in West European countries and in various sea regions. All this is done to "counter Soviet expansion" and is given wide publicity, straining the nerves of the man in the street. Despite real facts of today and historical experience, people are told that the Soviet Union threatens their states, and that not only a return to the cold war but a military catastrophe are inevitable.

Incidentally, it is practically impossible to find in the bourgeois press an explanation why, for instance, the Soviet Union needs war, why it "seeks military superiority" and why Soviet peace initiatives are "propaganda". By spreading the myth about a "Soviet threat" the Western news media completely ignore the class nature of relations of states in the international arena, deliberately do not mention the content of the Peace Programme proclaimed at the 24th and 25th Congresses of the CPSU and supplemented with new major moves at the latest forum of the Soviet Communists, and give a distorted interpretation, or conceal altogether, the peace initiatives of the CPSU and the Soviet state aimed at strengthening peace and international cooperation. In the West they prefer to be silent about them and repeat over and over again "Soviet military superiority", using falsified data in the bargain.

Some or other Soviet moves are misinterpreted to vilify the foreign policy of socialism and divert world public opinion from the provocative aggressive acts of the West.

Take, for instance, the frantic propaganda campaign unleashed in the West around the Afghanistan events. It was intended as a cover up of the imperialist encroachments of the United States. Thus, the fabricated reports on the intention of the Soviet troops to use Afghanistan as a bridgehead for the seizure of Iranian oilfields "for some reason" coincided in time with the preparations of the US subversion against Iran and the escalation of the US naval presence in the Persian Gulf. The provocative allegations of the use of napalm and chemical weapons by Soviet troops against the Afghan population were spread in order to distract public attention from the fact that it is the USA that supplies the Afghan counter-revolutionary gangs with chemical weapons.

While circulating insinuations about the role of the limited contingent of Soviet troops in Afghanistan, which entered the country at the request of the Afghan government, the bourgeois mass media are concealing from the Western public what really is going on in Afghanistan. The main papers in the FRG refused to publish reports and pictures by West German journalists, who had spent a month in Afghanistan. The British right-wing press assumed the same attitude towards R. Brown, an MP, who had visited that country and whose view of the issue ran counter to the official line. The Paris press, with the exception of left-wing publications, did not carry the articles written by the French trade union leaders who had been to Afghanistan. Many more instances of this kind could be listed here.

One of the ideological purposes of the myth about a "Soviet military threat" is to distort and falsify the USSR's foreign policy, spread prejudi-

ces among the masses and ingraft false stereotypes in their thinking. Western propaganda agencies resort to cheating by substituting invented "Soviet expansion" for the real causes of particular national or international critical situations. In this way they are trying to justify their own interference in the affairs of other nations. The subversive actions against Poland are clear evidence of this.

The unprecedented political, economic and ideological pressure being exerted by Washington and its allies on Poland is being accompanied by a stream of shameless lies and slander concerning the events taking place in the country and around it. According to *l'Humanite*, 12 right-wing dailies, several weeklies, three TV programmes and five radio stations are working in France to fan the hysteria around the situation that has taken shape in Poland.

The bourgeois media, manipulated by government organs and secret agencies, have become an instrument of interference in the internal affairs of this sovereign state. And again the "Soviet threat" myth was used to "justify" such policy. Western propaganda endeavours to prove that the resolute measures taken by the Polish leadership to eliminate the threat to socialism in the country were "a result of interference and pressure from Moscow". Resorting to downright lies, Reuters reported that Soviet troops in Polish uniforms had sneaked into Poland in advance to take part in repressive actions. The story of "Russians in Polish uniforms" appeared in many papers, not only in the London press. *Oakland Tribune-East Bay Today* wrote that the Soviets are landing in Warsaw. *International Herald Tribune*, it seems, did not mention "Russians in Poland", but it urged Polish soldiers to turn their weapons against the "hated historical enemy".

These irresponsible and provocative statements show that the Western media still intend to "erode" the socialist community and sap the positions of world socialism.

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The great significance of the mass media in our time is indisputable. The press, radio and TV not only enable tens of millions of people to witness the events but shape public opinion and serve as a major instrument of pursuing a definite policy. The responsibility of those working in the mass media for the content of information and its educational effect is enormous. This is a force capable of promoting social progress and economic advancement, improving understanding between nations and facilitating a positive solution of major domestic and international political problems. It can also be used to achieve the opposite goals, such as distorting the truth, stepping up international tensions and promoting misanthropy. The reactionary circles are trying to use the mass media as an instrument of causing distrust and enmity between nations and creating an explosive situation in the world.

To give the "psychological war" against socialism a purposeful character and step up the large-scale involvement of the mass media in it, they have taken a series of organizational measures and held several meetings on the common strategy and tactical methods to be used in the far reaching "anti-detente" operation.

In the USA, for instance, much attention was devoted to expanding the activities of the International Communication Agency (ICA), the central agency for foreign policy propaganda.[2] "Now Ronald Reaga

[2] The US President recently signed a decision to rename the International Communication Agency the US Information Agency.

is rearming the nation's public-relations agency for a bold new war of words with the Soviets", wrote *Newsweek* at the end of last year in an article whose title speaks for itself: "A Hot Cold War Heats up the ICA". A no less revealing assessment of the Agency's work was made by its director Charles Z. Wick: "We are at war (with the Soviets), whether de facto or declared".

In fanning up war hysteria and spreading fear "of the Soviets" the growing role is played by the department most interested in it—the Pentagon. There is, according to a special study published in New York, one of the biggest government apparatuses directing the flow of information and propaganda, which in no way contradicts the established course or programmes of the Pentagon in particular and the Administration as a whole.[1] According to US data, about 4,500 persons are employed by the Defense Department to condition public opinion in the way required by Washington. The US Congress, it is said in the study, does not limit the sums to be spent on this; in 1960 the amount shot up 15-fold and is now nearing $200 million a year. The Pentagon has about 300 radio and TV stations in various parts of the world officially catering for US servicemen abroad but in fact they directly influence the frame of mind of the local population. The Pentagon issues hundreds of books, pamphlets, newspapers, and magazines with the total annual edition of 8 million copies, and makes militaristic films.

All remember the propaganda farce staged by the US Defense Department last autumn around the publication of the pamphlet *Soviet Military Power*. The authors of this, another falsification by the Pentagon, advertized it as the biggest exposure of secret US intelligence data on a "Soviet threat". The foreword to the pamphlet was written by the Pentagon chief himself. The Defense Department virtually raked the nerves of not only Americans but also the people of the NATO countries and Japan: the Pentagon had hired a satellite telecommunication system to enable the Defense Secretary personally to tell the people overseas about the "menacing Soviet military might," to frighten, mislead and misinform Western public opinion.

And though the propaganda ruse failed, the Pentagon has far from abandoned attempts to influence public opinion. As before, information (or misinformation, to be more precise) of all kinds is cooked up in the Pentagon and then circulated through the press, radio and TV all over the country. The mechanism is very simple: the Pentagon conducts regular briefings of the journalists who see eye to eye with its official spokesmen.

The role of the mass media as a powerful instrument of foreign and domestic policies, a tool of shaping public opinion, is also taken into account by the secret services of capitalist countries. In the United States the CIA is firmly entrenched in the press, radio, TV, cinema and publishing. According to *International Herald Tribune*, the CIA has secretly built a global propaganda network of its own. It is not only a leading centre setting the main line of propaganda campaigns, but supplies deliberately distorted information to Western news agencies, fixing the time for some or other action and ensuring their international coordination. Indeed, the paper says, the CIA has in the sphere of its influence over 800 various organs of propaganda. News prepared in the CIA or to its order is used by hundreds of newspapers and dozens of news agencies, to say nothing of the radio sations Liberty and Free Europe operating under the CIA.

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[1] See J. Heise, *Minimum Disclosure: How the Pentagon Manipulates the News*, New York, 1980.

Recent years have seen quite a few exposures of ties between the US intelligence service and the press, of the recruitment of journalists by secret services and the role assigned to the mass media by the leaders of the "cloak and dagger" agency. Today no one even bothers to conceal these facts. The CIA has been included, together with the Department of State and the Pentagon, in the inter-departmental commission set up by the US Administration and instructed by the President to supervize US propaganda and coordinate it in the USA and with the NATO countries.

The main lines of the CIA's activities in this area are ideological subversion, the struggle against communist ideology and existing socialism, the Soviet Union above all, and the spread of the "Soviet threat" tenet. The "secret" reports written in Langley on the foreign and domestic policies of the USSR often appear to set off provocative anti-Soviet campaigns after an arranged information "leakage" through CIA-connected editorial boards.

The financial oligarchy, the military-industrial complexes and the right-wing bourgeoisie are behind the propaganda sallies of imperialism and ideological sabotage. Today they not only set the general anti-socialist guidelines for the policies of bourgeois states but take an ever greater part in various anti-Soviet and anti-socialist campaigns. This tendency not only is typical of the USA, it has become widespread in other Western countries as well.

A peculiar stock-exchange operation took place in France recently. The military-industrial concern Matra manufacturing arms—from pistols to radar installations, tanks, missiles and electronic equipment—and having a large amount of shares in the motor, watch-making and other industries, has purchased Hachette, one of the world's largest publishing trusts. Hachette owns dozens of weeklies and magazines (*Le Point, Le Journal du Dimanche, Télé-7-Jours, Elle*, etc.), the biggest publishing houses (Stock, Fayard, Grasset, Le Livre de Poche) and two TV firms, and handles the transportation and delivery of practically all newspapers and magazines in the country. Considering that by that time Matra already controlled the French radio station Europe-1, the Monte Carlo television, and the press of the country's eastern regions, it becomes clear that this military-industrial corporation has become not only the biggest press and book-publishing group in France expressing the interests of the military-industrial complex, but has set up a very powerful complex in the communications sphere due to its presence in such areas as information science, telemechanics, manufacture and use of satellites, radio and television. There is every indication that the significance of this complex will continue to grow.

In West Germany, the Bundeswehr plays a leading role in the manipulation of public thinking. Its propaganda centre is the Headquarters for the Press and Information of the Federal Ministry of Defence, which is closely linked with relevant NATO agencies. The Headquarters directs and coordinates the coverage of military policy problems by the mass media. Among the measures practiced regularly are "statements for the press", news conferences, meetings of journalists with spokesmen of the Bundeswehr top brass and publication of a large amount of special information. A great number of military analysts zealously vindicating the military concepts of the West work in the West German media. Many of them had served in Hitler's Wehrmacht and are convinced anti-Sovieteers and revenge-seekers. Today they are ready and willing proponents of the arms race, intimidating the West Germans with the notorious "Soviet threat".

Nearly all bourgeois mass media are involved today in the propaganda campaign going on in the West under the false "Soviet threat" slogan.

Professional anti-communists on both sides of the Atlantic attempt to enlist the services of some statesmen, members of parliament and public figures in hostile propaganda acts. Some of these have found themselves unable to resist skilfully provoked anti-Soviet hysteria.

The turning of the ideologial struggle against socialism into an element of state policy enables the imperialist forces to coordinate propaganda attacks against socialist countries and Communist Parties and democratic movements in individual capitalist states and on a global scale.

An example of such joint activity is the Western powers' cooperation in NATO where they combine the threat of force with ideological sabotage and give a powerful propaganda backing to their militaristic policy. NATO strategists attach great importance to the "psychological war", regarding it as a specific weapon against communism, the socialist community, and against all peaceloving nations.

The information service of the NATO headquarters in Evere, near Brussels, is the propaganda centre of the "psychological war" coordinating the work of the Atlantic propaganda machine. It is in that service that many "ideas" are formed to be subsequently used by the Western media for violent attacks on the foreign and domestic policies of the USSR, fanning up militaristic hysteria and misleading millions of people. The Western press has repeatedly made it clear that the US Administration and the CIA were behind many ideological campaigns orchestrated at the NATO headquarters. Today, too, the NATO information service has joined the US-led propaganda crusade against detente, against the Soviet peace proposals, for spreading the "Soviet threat" myth.

The demand to toughen the information and propaganda activity in that direction was expressed at the December 1979 session of the NATO Council. Discussing the deployment of US medium-range nuclear missiles in a number of West European countries the participants in the session analyzed the propaganda back up of the NATO activities at the time when the antiwar and antimissile movement was mounting in Western Europe and the USA. The Communique of the NATO Council session said that the bloc's leaders noted that the work being done was unsatisfactory and expressed the insistent wish that "in view of the Soviet threat" the propaganda of NATO's "defencive" (read: militaristic—*Y. N.*) efforts be given a still wider scope. The NATO leadership later more than once discussed these matters, including at the NATO Council sessions in May and December 1981 and June 1982, at the so-called Atlantic assemblies and at meetings specially convened for the purpose.

By escalating militaristic hysteria the forces of imperialism and reaction hope to bring home to the world public the idea that "aggressiveness" has always been typical of the USSR. The Soviet peace moves are declared "pure propaganda" designed to "disarm the West" and secure "unilateral advantages" for the USSR. To that end, they have come up with the absurd idea that the capitalist countries must modernize their nuclear potential first and only then discuss disarmament. NATO Secretary-General Joseph Luns, speaking about the large-scale movements in the West against nuclear war, stated bluntly that in the opinion of the allies, these movements which, happily, are active not in all countries, would doubtlessly jeopardize the possibility of preserving peace and reaching an agreement with the USSR. It is hard to imagine anything so far from

the truth. But not to Luns. He further said that was not true that disarmament could prevent war.

This is the direction in which the public is being conditioned by the bourgeois mass media. This is a veritable militarization of public thinking and the way of life in the imperialist states where everything is being done to prepare, morally and psychologically, the population of the USA and the NATO countries for the idea that war is inevitable. The bourgeois propaganda machine is wiping out from people's minds ideas of peaceful coexistence and cooperation, of friendship among nations and the belief that the aggravated global problems of today can be solved through the joint effort of all states. Instead, it imposes on them the idea that precisely the stake on military force, the threat to use the military might or, if necessary, open military confrontation are a natural response to "Russia's challenge". Having lost any sense of responsibility, the bourgeois "experts" are trying to prove that war is not as horrible as it may seem, that its disastrous consequences are strongly exaggerated and that there can be a winner in a nuclear conflict.

The "Soviet threat" myth is a multi-purpose propaganda weapon of imperialism. In the capitalist world militarism and anti-Soviet hysteria are widely used for bolstering up the existing, and setting up new, alliances, blocs and groupings designed to smooth over as much as possible the interimperialist contradictions and rally the capitalist countries for the struggle against socialism.

The propoganda ballyhoo around a "Soviet threat" is also intended for discrediting the USSR's policy, splitting the national liberation movements and pitting against one another the main revolutionary currents of our time. Any development in the world that does not suit the USA is immediately labelled as "Moscow plotting" and "international terrorism". At the same time, the real purpose of these slanderous lies is to cover up the plans of US interference in the affairs of other states.

The escalation of fear is a tried and tested method of ideological brainwashing, of bending people to one's will and creating an atmosphere of total hysteria. John Foster Dulles, one of the fathers of the cold war, once said that to make a country bear the burden of armaments it is necessary to create an emotional atmosphere causing a sense of insecurity and fear of the future. People should believe, he said, that their country is faced with an outside threat. This recipe is readily used today by the US Administration and the leaders of a number of other NATO countries. The massive psychological "Soviet threat" campaign has worked, admitted Fred Charles Iklé, US Under-Secretary of Defence for Policy. This fear must be cultivated by all means to safeguard US interests in future, Iklé concluded, meaning the interests of the military-industrial complex, of course, which have nothing in common with the needs and aspirations of ordinary people in the world.

And, last but not least, the "Soviet threat" myth is used to hamstring the political and social rights of the working people. As they spread war hysteria, the financial oligarchy and military business bosses demand a redistribution of the national income in their own favour by cutting back on allocations for social needs. The General Secretary of the Communist Party, USA Gus Hall was quoted as saying that the anti-Soviet smokescreen is being used to convince Americans that they should reconcile themselves to new sacrifices in their lives, with the course for rigid economy, and to the new belt-tightening appeals, and at the same time to create the impression that anyone who is opposed to this attack on the people's living standards is taking an unpatriotic stand which runs counter to the national interests and the country's security.

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The "Soviet threat" campaign harms the vital interests of the peoples, sowing fear and distrust, and contradicts the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act. "The mass media," noted Leonid Brezhnev, "can and must tell the truth that the future of nations is closely associated with sound and reliable peace, with the establishment of the ideals of equality, social progress and freedom. To serve this truth is the noble duty and responsibility of journalists today."

The ideological struggle in the world is an objective fact. But the struggle of ideas has nothing to do with the psychological preparations for an exchange of nuclear strikes. The victory of one ideological concept over another has never been won on the battlefield.

The myth about a "Soviet threat", this Big Lie of the bourgeois propaganda, cannot be accepted by the majority of the world's population. Whatever the new cunning tricks the apologists of the dying capitalist system may resort to, the truth about the USSR's foreign policy of peace will find its way to people's hearts and minds. A policy is judged by deeds, not by words. And the declared Soviet obligation not to be the first to use nuclear weapons gives the lie to the "Soviet expansionism" fabrications.

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SOVIET EFFORTS FOR DISARMAMENT CONTRASTED WITH U.S. OBSTRUCTIONISM

Moscow INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS in English No 11, Nov 82 pp 81-80

[Article by Y. Tomilin: "Curbing the Arms Race: The Key Problem of Our Time"]

[Text] The struggle for disarmament is part and parcel of the USSR's effort to ensure peaceful conditions for the building of communist society. While viewing measures to limit arms and ensure disarmament as an important instrument in the struggle to consolidate peace, the USSR simultaneously seeks to release additional resources for peaceful constructive purposes. Proceeding from the policy-making decisions of the 24th, 25th and 26th Congresses of the CPSU, the Soviet Union is exploring every avenue in the search for a solution to the disarmament tasks set by these Congresses.

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The task to curb the arms race, above all the nuclear arms race, has assumed particular urgency in recent years when the actions of the United States and its closest allies have sharply aggravated tensions in the world and increased the danger of nuclear war.

The 1960s and 1970s saw some positive results achieved in arms limitation: international agreements were signed on a ban on nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, outer space and under water, on nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, on banning the emplacement of mass destruction weapons on the seabed, ocean floor and the subsoil thereof, on banning bacteriological and toxin weapons, on banning the use of environmental modification techniques; agreements were reached on limiting strategic arms and a number of confidence-building measures were initiated in Europe. Although the results achieved did not stop the arms race, they nevertheless had a salubrious effect on the international situation and showed that real measures in arms limitation were possible and feasible. What had been done provided a basis for further steps towards arms limitation and disarmament.

At the turn of the 1980s, however, the US policy swerved towards accelerated arms buildup and greater confrontation with the Soviet Union. These changes, which began under the Carter Administration, constituted the main thrust of the Reagan Administration.

The desire to achieve military superiority over the USSR, a feature of American policy throughout the postwar period, became the prevailing trend, one that leads to serious international complications and dramatically increases the threat of nuclear war.

In October 1981, the US President announced his new strategic programme for the 1980s which emphasizes the manufacture and deployment of new types of nuclear weapons that are far more accurate than the previous weapons and can reach the target much more quickly.

MX and Trident-2 ICBMs, Tomahawk cruise missiles, etc., figure prominently in that programme.

The Pentagon is advancing and promoting strategic conceptions of a "pre-emptive strike", "demonstration nuclear explosions" and "limited nuclear war" to "theoretically" justify the development of new types of nuclear weapons and to accustom public opinion in and outside the United States to the admissibility of the use of such weapons.[1]

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The history of the arm race throughout the postwar period has shown that the US attempts to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union are futile. Efforts in this direction cause retaliatory actions from the USSR whose aim is to ensure the defence capacity of the Soviet Union and its allies. Those who harbour plans of achieving military superiority clearly overrate their possibilities and overlook the possibilities of the other side which has not remained and will not remain passive in the face of military preparations directed against it. The present US attempts to attain military superiority over the Soviet Union are also doomed to failure.

At the same time, the result of the US arms buildup has been to increase the danger threatening a wide range of countries. Attempts to tip the military balance merely lead to a new spiral in the arms race, the danger of which lies in the fact that at a certain point in a particular spiral, the illusion of military superiority may appear. As a result, adventurist elements pushing the world towards nuclear war could become prevalent within the US leadership. And that would lead to a nuclear catastrophe that would destroy the whole world.

The actions of the United States pose a real danger for its allies. The emplacement of new American missiles on the territories of the NATO countries would make these countries hostages to the Pentagon's nuclear strategy. They would be exposed to a retaliatory strike which for most of them would be the last.

Finally, the US military plans present a real danger for the developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. To the accompaniment of the propaganda ballyhoo about "eliminating the military lag behind the USSR" the USA is increasing its potential for waging so-called local wars in order to ensure the interests of American imperialism in various parts of the world. It is known that such wars mean in fact interference in the internal affairs of other states, support for reactionary puppet regimes and suppression of the national liberation movement.

Having committed itself to an intensive arms buildup, the United States has rejected almost all negotiations on arms limitation. In this context, the task of solving the problems of arms limitation, notably of nuclear arms limitation, and of averting the threat of nuclear war becomes of particular significance. These tasks were primarily posed by the delegations which had come to New York to attend the Second Special Session of the UN General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament (June 7-July 10, 1982). The Special Session was the biggest international

[1] For details see A. Slobodenko, "Banking on Mounting Tension", p. 91—98.

forum on disarmament in recent years, providing as it did wide opportunities for setting out and bringing to the knowledge of the international community the concrete Soviet proposals aimed at implementing the Peace Programme.

Central to the Session was the question of how to prevent nuclear war and to reduce its danger. Leonid Brezhnev's Message to the General Assembly declaring the unilateral Soviet commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons exerted a decisive influence on the entire course of the Session. The Soviet decision pointed out the most effective way to avert nuclear catastrophe. As the Message expressly indicated, this commitment became effective at the moment it was announced from the rostrum of the UN General Assembly on June 15, 1982. "The peoples of the world have the right to expect that the decision of the Soviet Union will be followed by reciprocal steps on the part of the other nuclear states," says the Message. If the other nuclear powers undertake an equally clear and unequivocal commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, that will amount to a ban on the use of nuclear weapons which is advocated by the majority of countries. The Soviet decision not to be the first to use nuclear weapons is a logical extension of the Soviet initiative at the 36th Session of the UN General Assembly resulting in the adoption of a resolution proclaiming first use of nuclear weapons to be the gravest crime against humanity.

Seeking to minimize the nuclear threat, the Soviet Union has come out for achieving a more radical goal, that of full elimination of nuclear weapons. As early as November 1977 it proposed to end the production of nuclear weapons and to reduce gradually their stocks with the prospect of their complete elimination. This proposal was subsequently elaborated into a comprehensive programme of nuclear disarmament envisaging talks between all nuclear powers. The programme includes the following measures:

an end to the development of new systems of nuclear weapons;

an end to the production of fissionable materials for the purpose of creating various types of nuclear weapons;

an end to the production of nuclear warheads of every type and of the means of their delivery;

gradual reduction of the existing stocks of nuclear weapons including means of delivery;

complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

In search of measures to block the way to the arms race, many states and many political and public leaders in different countries have recently turned to the idea of freezing nuclear weapons, in other words, of stopping further buildup of nuclear potentials. Proposals on a nuclear freeze were made at the Second Special Session by India, Mexico, Sweden, Ireland and some other states.

The idea of a nuclear freeze is popular in the United States where it has following among influential circles and also on Capitol Hill.

Characteristically, all the proposals on a nuclear freeze view this not as an end in itself but as a starting points for the process of limiting, reducing and eventually eliminating nuclear weapons. The Soviet delegation to the Session commenting on various proposals on a nuclear arms freeze noted that while they were not without contradictions they were generally headed in the right direction. "The idea of a mutual freeze of nuclear arsenals as a first step towards their reduction and, eventually, complete elimination is close to the Soviet point of view," said Leonid Brezhnev in his Message.

The Geneva Soviet-American talks on limiting nuclear weapons in Europe are the subject of close attention worldwide. These talks began in the autumn of 1980 and were resumed a year later, in the autumn of 1981. The fact of their resumption gave cause for satisfaction throughout the world, and especially in the European countries which hope that they will remove the tensions, deepen detente and confidence between nations and put Europe out of the nuclear danger which now threatens it. And indeed these talks are devoted to one of the key questions of European and international security.

The Soviet Union wants to see Europe completely free of medium-range and tactical nuclear weapons. It is ready for a partial solution of that task on the basis, say, of an agreement on complete renunciation of all types of medium-range nuclear weapons aimed at targets in Europe. Lastly, the Soviet Union will agree to gradual but substantial (by hundreds of units) reductions of nuclear medium-range weapons of both sides—the USSR and NATO.

The Soviet Union proves its commitment to ensuring the success of the Geneva talks by practical deeds. It has unilaterally halted the deployment of medium-range missiles in the European part of the USSR. Moreover, the Soviet Union is already reducing a substantial number of such weapons. It has stated in no uncertain terms that it will place no additional medium-range missiles within the striking distance of West European countries.

In its negotiating stand the Soviet Union proceeds from the assumption that limitations must be equal, that they must not impinge on the legitimate security interests of the two sides and must meet the task of curbing the nuclear arms race.

In keeping with this approach the Soviet Union proposes that the talks on nuclear arms limitations in Europe consider not only American medium-range missile systems deployed on the European continent but also the US forward-based nuclear weapons capable of reaching the territories of the USSR and its allies. The latter refers to nuclear weapon-carrying planes stationed on American air bases in some West European countries; nuclear weapon-carrying planes on board American aircraft carriers from which they could reach the territories of the USSR and its allies; American missile-carrying submarines under the NATO European command.

As the Soviet Defence Minister Marshal Ustinov said in a TASS interview published in *Pravda* on August 29, 1982, the Soviet Union in Geneva proposed a vast European zone of nuclear weapons cuts and limitation extending from the Arctic Ocean to Africa, from the mid-Atlantic to the Ural mountains. It also proposed that within this zone reductions of medium-range nuclear weapons (1,000 km and more but not intercontinental weapons) should be carried out in such a way as to leave the USSR and NATO with no more than 300 units of such weapons each, within 5 years after the agreement. All types of medium-range nuclear weapons, both missiles and planes, would be subject to cuts. The deployment of new types of nuclear weapons, including US Pershing-2 and cruise missiles, would be banned in the zone.

The Soviet proposals do not envisage any commitments for third countries. But the summary level of 300 medium-range weapons does include British and French aircraft and missiles. The Soviet Union cannot ignore the fact that these weapons are part of the NATO medium-range nuclear armaments targeted on the USSR and its allies.

The Soviet proposals also provide for some concomitant measures in Europe to limit nuclear weapons with a range of under 1,000 km. Such limitations of numerous armaments would undoubtedly serve the interests of all the European states. The USSR has also proposed that

medium-range nuclear weapons outside the European reduction and limitation zone be stationed in such a way as to be out of striking distance of targets on the territory of the other side within the said zone.

As far as the American stand at the talks on limiting nuclear arms in Europe is concerned, it can hardly be described as constructive. The USA continues to push the so-called zero option announced by the US President in his speech on November 18, 1981, which provided the basis for the American draft treaty proposed at the negotiations. The "zero option" basically requires that the Soviet Union unilaterally dismantle all its medium-range missiles both in the European part of the USSR and in its eastern regions, which have nothing to do with the problem of nuclear arms in Europe. This decision, if implemented, would give NATO a more than double advantage in the number of medium-range nuclear weapon carriers and a triple advantage in the number of nuclear warheads. In essence the American side appears to be saying: either the USSR unilaterally dismantles its medium-range missiles deployed as a counterweight to existing American forward-based nuclear weapons in Europe and the nuclear arms of the US allies (and also similar Soviet weapons emplaced in the Asian part of the USSR to protect its eastern and southern regions), or the United States deploys some 600 medium-range nuclear weapons in Western Europe in addition to those already in NATO's possession. In this case NATO would have 50 per cent more medium-range nuclear weapon carriers and almost twice as many warheads delivered by these carriers.

The US stand suggests that the American side needs the negotiations not for mutual reduction of nuclear weapons in Europe but, most likely, to lull public opinion in the West European countries which is protesting against the dangerous US military preparations and subsequently, by leading the negotiations into a deadlock, justify the deployment of almost 600 new American midium-range missiles in Western Europe beginning from 1983.

On June 29, 1982 the Soviet-American talks on strategic arms resumed in Geneva. It took the present US Administration a year and a half to agree to their resumption, not least due to the powerful anti-war movement in Western Europe and inside the United States.

The Soviet Union has always come out for substantial limitations of strategic weapons. But if an agreement is to be reached the two sides must pursue the negotiations taking into account the legitimate interests of each other and in keeping with the principle of equality and equal security; all the positive achievements in the SALT process must be preserved; the negotiations must genuinely pursue the aim of limiting and reducing strategic weapons and not serve as a smokescreen for building up arms and upsetting the existing parity; all the channels of strategic arms race in any form must be securely blocked. That means that the creation of new types of strategic weapons must be banned or limited as far as possible to agreed parameters.

Desirous of stemming the buildup of nuclear arsenals and facilitating progress towards radical limitation and reduction of strategic weapons, the Soviet Union proposed that with the start of the negotiations the USSR and the USA freeze the number of strategic weapons and reduce their modernization to a minimum. It also proposed that for the time of the negotiations the two sides refrain from any actions capable of upsetting the strategic balance.

What is the standpoint of the American side in the negotiations? Central to the American stand, as set out in Washington's official statements, is the insistence that at first there should be negotiations on submarine-launched ballistic missiles and ground-based intercontinental ballistic missiles, and that particular attention should be paid to one type

of Soviet missiles—the SS-18 intercontinental ballistic missiles. As regards other strategic weapons—heavy bombers and cruise missiles—the United States proposes overlooking them. The US approach is prompted by the fact that the USA has an edge on the Soviet Union in nuclear-capable planes and cruise missiles. Thus, the US Administration is trying to use the talks to destabilize the balance of forces and alter it in its favour.

Needless to say, negotiations could not be fruitful on such a basis. They could only yield positive results if both sides seek to combine all the strategic means in such a way as to find a mutually acceptable equation that would ensure the legitimate security of both sides. If the American side agrees to such an approach then negotiations could get off the ground.

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The general and complete ban of nuclear weapon tests is an important measure in the overall complex of measures to restrain the arms race and prevent the threat of nuclear war. Tests are a necessary and important element in the development of new types and systems of nuclear weapons and in their improvement. In addition, tests check the combat readiness of nuclear warheads under storage. If tests were suspended an important obstacle would be erected to the arms race. By the same token a ban on nuclear weapon tests would strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime.

The Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water, signed in Moscow in 1963, was useful in limiting nuclear weapons because it put a certain obstacle in the way of further upgrading nuclear weapons, especially of their more powerful types which are usually tested in the atmosphere. However, the Moscow Treaty virtually leaves out the underground nuclear tests. Besides, two nuclear powers, China and France, are not parties to the Moscow Treaty, a circumstance of no small importance.

That is why the task of banning nuclear weapon tests is a basic one in the matter of nuclear arms limitation. The question of a treaty on the complete and general ban of nuclear weapon tests has never been off the agenda of international forums dealing with disarmament. It is question number one on the agenda of the Committee on Disarmament, at the sessions of the UN General Assembly and of other international organizations.

In 1977, the Soviet Union, the United States and Great Britain began trilateral talks to conclude such a treaty. Substantial progress was achieved in the talks and the text of the future treaty was practically agreed. Only some technicalities remained to be sorted out. In August 1980, the participants of the trilateral talks presented a progress report to the Committee on Disarmament. It evoked highly positive response on the part of other states which viewed it as a promising sign of an early conclusion of the treaty.

However, the new US Administration, which won the November 1980 elections, declared that it needed time to study the question before resuming the trilateral talks. Having delayed the resumption of the talks for more than a year and a half under the pretext of "study", the White House announced to the world that the President has decided not to resume the Soviet-American-British talks on a complete and general ban of nuclear weapon tests which had been broken off by the United States. The American side declared that it considered such a treaty to be "untimely".

Even before the trilateral talks began, the USSR and the United States had signed two agreements—the Treaty on the Limitation of Underground Nuclear Weapon Tests (1974), and the Treaty on Underground Nuclear Explosions for Peaceful Purposes (1976). After delaying their ratification, the United States recently proclaimed its decision not to ratify them. The reasons for the US refusal to continue the trilateral talks and to ratify the 1974 and 1976 treaties were candidly explained by Eugene Rostow, Director of the US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, who declared on May 13 before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that given the need for a new weapons systems and modernization the USA is "going to need testing and perhaps even testing above the 150-kiloton limit for a long time to come".[2]

In spite of the US refusal to continue the trilateral talks, the struggle for a complete and general ban on nuclear weapon tests continues. The Soviet Union, other socialist countries and the non-aligned states are seeking, at the Committee on Disarmament, to start multilateral talks to conclude such a treaty. The US line to renounce the conclusion of a treaty on a complete and general ban on nuclear weapon tests is meeting with no support among many US allies.

An important task in restraining the nuclear arms race is, as before, an all-out effort to strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime. An increase in the number of states possessing nuclear weapons would make the outbreak of nuclear conflict more probable.

The nuclear non-proliferation regime is based on the Non-Proliferation Treaty which has been in effect since 1970. At present, 119 states have acceeded to it and the Treaty has been an obstacle to the spread of nuclear weapons.

At the same time, as science and technology progress, the number of countries that have material and technological potential for creating nuclear weapons is growing. At the present stage, the growing demand for energy, rising prices for conventional fuels, and the construction of highly economical and safe nuclear power plants stimulate the development of atomic energy. It is an objective process justified in terms of human progress. Unless certain limits and conditions are imposed, that process inevitably leads to states developing nuclear energy acquiring materials, equipment and technology that could be used not only for peaceful purposes but also for the manufacture of nuclear weapons. These limits and conditions are part of the concept of non-proliferation. The stronger the non-proliferation regime the more solid the basis for broad international cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy. The Soviet Union invariably comes out for such cooperation and is active in it.

Non-nuclear states signatories to the Non-Proliferation Treaty are raising the question of safeguards for their security on the part of nuclear powers. The Soviet Union views this interest with understanding. It is proposing a solution through an international convention. Another possibility is the conclusion of bilateral agreements on safeguards with the states that do not possess nuclear weapons and do not have them on their territory.

The Non-Proliferation Treaty bans the acquisition or creation of nuclear weapons by the non-nuclear states. But it does not ban the emplacement of nuclear weapons on other states' territories. In order to close that channel, too, the Soviet Union proposes an international agreement to ban the emplacement of nuclear weapons on the territories of states where there are no such weapons at present. The proposal has been tabled at the Committee on Disarmament.

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[2] A 150-kiloton ceiling was fixed by the 1974 Treaty

The establishment of nuclear-free zones in various regions of the world plays an important role in preventing the spread of nuclear weapons. At present, there is one such zone, Latin America. Proposals have been made to create nuclear-free zones in Africa, the Middle East, the Balkans, Northern Europe and a number of other regions. The Soviet Union takes a positive view of these initiatives. As a nuclear state it is prepared to contribute towards finding mutually acceptable solutions on nuclear-free zones.

In March 1978, the Soviet Union and the other socialist states submitted to the Committee on Disarmament a proposal on a convention to ban the production, stockpiling, deployment and use of neutron weapons. The proposal takes on particular significance in the light of the US Administration's decision of August 6, 1981, to go ahead with the manufacture of the neutron bomb. However, talks on concluding a convention to ban the neutron weapon are being blocked by the Western powers.

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Although nuclear weapons pose the greatest danger to humanity, one should not underestimate the importance of measures to limit, reduce and eliminate other types of weapons, namely chemical, radiological and so on.

The question of banning and eliminating chemical weapons has been before international forums since 1969.

In 1976, the USSR and the USA began talks on prohibiting chemical weapons. Along with bilateral talks, the discussion of a ban on chemical weapons continued at the Committee on Disarmament. In 1980, the United States unilaterally broke off bilateral negotiations. Nevertheless, multilateral talks continued at the Committee on Disarmament. The United States and other Western countries are trying to slow them down in every way. They try to take advantage of the difficulties that arise over the problem of verification of a future convention. Wishing to achieve a breakthrough towards an international agreement to ban and eliminate chemical weapons, the Soviet Union submitted draft Basic Provisions of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction to the Second Special Session. The draft takes into account the wishes of other states, including the control issue.

The question of control indeed involves a series of difficulties because the same chemical substances can be used both in weapons and for peaceful purposes. That is why many methods of control would interfere with normal functioning of peaceful chemical industries. Mindful of this, the Soviet Union believes that control over a chemical weapons ban should be based on national means. At the same time, it does not reject the possibility of some international procedures being used. On-the-spot inspections on a voluntary basis could be among such procedures. However, taking into account the considerations expressed by other states, the Soviet Union has agreed to propose the use of systematic on-the-spot checks, such as on the basis of an agreed quota, as one measure of monitoring the destruction of chemical weapons and the manufacture of highly toxic lethal chemicals for allowed purposes.

Beginning from 1975, the agenda of the Committee on Disarmament and other international forums has included the question put by the USSR of prohibiting the development and production of new types of mass destruction weapons and new systems of such weapons. The

Committee on Disarmament is currently the scene of negotiations to reach agreement on a treaty banning the development, production, stockpiling and use of radiological weapons. The Soviet Union proposed renunciation of the use of new discoveries and achievements in science and technology for military purposes at the Second Special Session of the UN General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament.

An important task arising from the rapid development of military technology is to prevent the spread of the arms race to outer space. In 1981, at the 36th Session of the UN General Assembly the USSR proposed an agreement to ban the emplacement of any weapons in outer space. The Soviet Union submitted a draft treaty to the effect. The General Assembly approved the Soviet initiative and proposed that the Committee on Disarmament start negotiations on the issue. An item on preventing the arms race in outer space was included in the Committee's agenda despite opposition from the Western states.

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The Soviet Union comes out consistently for progress in all areas where opportunities open up for limiting and drastically reducing armaments, whether nuclear or other mass destruction weapons or conventional weapons. "There is no type of weapons which the Soviet Union would not be prepared to limit or ban on the basis of reciprocity," stressed the Message of Leonid Brezhnev to the Second Special Session of the UN General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament. In this noble struggle the Soviet Union comes out together with other socialist countries and enjoys the support of the non-aligned states and world public at large.

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U.S.-USSR CONFERENCE OF LITERARY SCHOLARS SUCCESSFUL

Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Dec 82 p 5

[Unattributed report: "The Fortunes of Realism. A Meeting of American and Soviet Literary Scholars"]

[Text] A Soviet-U.S. symposium devoted to the Russian literature of the late 19th and early 20th centuries took place recently in Evanston (near Chicago) at Northwestern University. We asked the head of the Soviet delegation, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences and deputy director of the Institute of World Literature imeni A.M. Gorkiy, V. Shcherbina, to tell us about the symposium and the makeup of its participants, the most interesting reports and papers, and the scientific significance of the symposium in the study of Russian literature at the turn of the century.

"First of all it should be noted that these kinds of meetings with our colleagues from the United States have now acquired a more or less regular character: in 1976 a symposium dealing with the problems of textual criticism [tekstologiya] was held in the United States, and in 1980 we invited American colleagues to the Institute of World Literature imeni A.M. Gorkiy. At this symposium the Soviet side included doctors of philological sciences B. Byalik and A. Ovcharenko, candidate of philological sciences L. Gromova (Opul'skaya) and the author of these lines. The U.S. side was composed of the symposium organizer and leader professor N. Lee (University of Colorado), and professors G. Connolly (University of Virginia), A. Crown (University of Chicago), and B. Foreman (Harvard University). About 100 professors and teachers from a number of U.S. universities, together with postgraduate students and students, took part in the discussions.

"The Soviet delegation delivered the following reports: "The Evolution of L. Tolstoy's Realism 1880-1900" (L. Gromova), "Was There a Crisis of Realism at the Turn of the Century?" (B. Byalik), "The Search for New Paths in the Russian Literature of Realism in the Early 20th Century" (A. Ovcharenko), and "Realism and Its Relationship with other Literary Trends in the Early 20th Century" (V. Shcherbina). Of the reports presented by the American participants in the symposium, note should be made of the following: ""The Intellingentsia in the Prose of M. Gorkiy during the 1890's" (B. Foreman), "The Bourgeois Marriage in Chekhov: Theme and Structure" (N. Lee), "The Creative Evolution of Ivan Bunin" (G. Connolly), and "Lev Tolstoy's Anna Karenina and the Prose of the 20th Century" (A. Crown).

"One characteristic feature of this symposium was the absence of anti-Soviet "sovietological" statements. Northwestern University pursues a progressive policy in the cultural sphere and tries to avoid contacts with aggressive anticommunist circles in the United States. But in addition to this, the following positive trend can also be distinguished: the rising generation of American specialists in Russian philology, in contrast to its older colleagues, is using the study of our literature less for political, anti-Soviet purposes, striving for objective, scientific investigation. Although the disputes during the course of our work were extremely sharp they were of a purely scientific nature and did not damage the generally friendly atmosphere.

"The questions we covered are particularly topical in light of the unceasing discussion about the main trends in literary development during the 20th century. Most of our American colleagues (and it pleases us to note this) now support the idea that realism was the leading direction in Russian literature at the turn of the century (in contrast to the viewpoint which proclaims the start of the modernistic era during this period and the complete "dispappearance" of realism). Some American literary scholars continue to give most of their attention to modernism but even they do not deny the significance of realism, in particular the founding role of the creativity of A.M. Gorkiy, who expressed the creation of a new kind of literature--a literature born of revolution.

"On the whole the meeting between the Soviet and American philologists passed off successfully, with mutual enrichment of our ideas about this important and interesting period in the history of Russian literature, and it served to strengthen mutual understanding between the scientists of our countries.

"After the work of the symposium had been completed the members of the Soviet delegation met with the professors and students of Northwestern University, answering numerous questions about our country's cultural life."

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ROLE OF PRIVATE CAPITAL IN SOCIALIST-ORIENTATION AFRICAN STATES EXAMINED

Moscow NAUCHNYY KOMMUNIZM in Russian No 5, Sep-Oct 82 pp 100-108

[Article by V. P. Pogorel'skiy, candidate in philosophical sciences, docent: "The Special Characteristics of State Capitalism in the African Countries With a Socialist Orientation and Its Use"]

[Text] In characterizing states with a socialist orientation L. I. Brezhnev observed at the 26th CPSU Congress that among the basic directions of their development there were those like "the gradual elimination of the positions of the imperialist monopolies, local big bourgeoisie, and feudalists, and a restriction on the activities of foreign capital." ("Materials of the 26th CPSU Congress," Moscow, 1981, p 12) At the present time the question of the elimination of the medium and petty bourgeoisie, and also of foreign capital is not of immediate concern for these states. These countries have to attract local and foreign private capital for the solution of their economic problems.

The states with a socialist orientation are states in which the power is held by revolutionary democratic governments which set themselves the goal of creating the political, ideological, and economic preconditions for a gradual approach to the construction of socialism. These governments carry out individual measures aimed at the nationalization of big capital and the use of petty and middle capital. The constitutions of a number of states with a socialist orientation in Africa, for example, Angola, Mozambique, Algeria, and Benin, permit the enlistment of private capital (local and foreign) for the development of their national economies. It is stated in the National Charter of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic that at the present time "the existence of a private national sector does not contradict the current historical stage in which the socialist sector has a dominant place." (Quoted from: "State Capitalism and the Social Evolution of the Countries of the Foreign East," Moscow, 1980, p 273)

The use of private capital is the objective result of the extreme backwardness of the economies of the liberated countries, and of their lack of the necessary experience in economic construction. In carrying out their economic policy the governments of these countries, while ensuring the state command heights in the economy and nationalizing certain foreign and large local enterprises, leave a substantial number of enterprises in the hands of local and foreign private capital. Establishing diverse contract relationships with capitalist enterprises, the governments of the liberated countries in this way make use of state capitalism.

There are two types of state capitalism in the liberated countries. In the countries which are following the capitalist path the usual type of state capitalism is created--in the form of a state sector of the economy, and also of enterprises based on an agreement between the state and private capital for the purpose of strengthening and developing capitalism. In the countries with a socialist orientation the class essence of the state is a qualitatively different one than in the countries following the capitalist path. The former are states of the broad masses of the people. The social essence of the state sector is determined by the character of the state. The National Charter of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic emphasizes that "nationalization and the shifting of the command heights in the economy into the hands of the state should not be identified with the establishment of state capitalism. . . ." ("National Charter of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic, 1976," Moscow, 1979, p 149) In a state which has selected the socialist path of development gradual transformations take place in the economic field. "The social content of the state sector is increasingly being transformed. . . . This transformation is leading to the birth of a socialist system." ("State Capitalism and the Social Evolution of the Countries of the Foreign East," p 16) In other words, in these countries the state sector which arose on the basis of the nationalization of bourgeois property is becoming the basis for the emergence of a socialist system.

Along with this sector, in the socialist orientation countries a new socioeconomic structure is arising. This, to use V. I. Lenin's words, is an unusual state capitalism based on an agreement between two socially antagonistic partners: the people's state and private capital. (V. I. Lenin, "Complete Works," Vol 45, p 374) The unusual nature of this kind of state capitalism consists in the fact that one of the partners--the state--occupies the command heights in the economy and regulates its development for the purpose of creating the preconditions for socialism. And the other partner--the capitalist--is no longer able as in the past to extract maximum profits, since he is bound to the state by a number of agreements which limit the action of the law of surplus value and the degree of the exploitation of workers at private enterprises. The capitalist allots some of his profits to the state, and subordinates himself to the state planning principle. He experiences the influence of the state sector of the economy.

The theses concerning the use of state capitalism in the interests of socialist construction which were developed by V. I. Lenin, and the experience of the USSR and the other socialist countries are of paramount importance for the liberated countries of Africa which are following the non-capitalist path. Of course, this experience cannot be carried over mechanically to the socialist orientation countries, although there is much in common between it and the basic principles and directions of the use of their state capitalism.

In the socialist orientation countries state capitalism is used to consolidate their economic independence and to accelerate the development of their natural resources, to expand their export possibilities and the accumulation of currency, to increase employment, to increase the production of consumer goods, and to

centralize and socialize production. State capitalism in these countries fosters the restructuring of the productive forces and agrarian-raw materials structure which were deformed by the colonial system, an equal territorial distribution of the productive forces, industrialization, the obtaining of technical assistance from abroad, and the training of national managerial cadres and a skilled labor force.

State capitalism under these conditions makes it possible for the governments of the socialist orientation countries to make more efficient use of private enterprises, to protect small producers against exploitation by private capital, to wage a struggle against the latter in a peaceful manner, to gradually take possession of market relationships, strengthen the planning principle in the economy, and, as a result, to eliminate private capital itself. Thus, state capitalism in the socialist orientation countries is used for the creation of the economic preconditions for a social society.

Since state capitalism in the socialist orientation countries is cooperation between two antagonistic partners who are struggling with one another, it serves different classes with contrary interests. It has to be considered that although state capitalism does help to create the preconditions for socialism, at the same time it also promotes the growth of elements of capitalism.

State capitalism's proportion in the economies and its forms are different in the different socialist orientation countries. They depend upon the assistance which is given by the socialist countries to the socialist orientation countries, upon the latters' level of economic development, upon the acuteness of their social contradictions, the state sector's proportion in the economy, improvements in the state administrative apparatus, a country's international position, and upon traditions.

Some of the forms of economic regulation of private capital on the basis of special state agreements with it include: the establishment of a state monopoly over trade in the goods which are produced by private entrepreneurs; the purchase and sale of these goods by the state; supplying capitalists on specific terms with raw materials, fuel, and semi-finished goods; granting them advances and credit on specific terms; their use as commission traders who sell state goods; renting and giving them concessions for state enterprises; giving them orders for the production of goods with an agreed-upon assortment, quality, and price and the establishment of a definite schedule; the creation of mixed enterprises; the enlistment of bourgeois specialists to work in the state enterprises; combining small producers into trusts under state control, and so forth.

All of the forms of state capitalism differ from one another not only in the specific nature of the contract agreement and the method of using private capital, but also in the different degrees of its subordination to the state planning principle, the extent of its economic dependence upon the state sector, and the level of its centralization and socialization.

One of the forms of state capitalism is represented by the cooperation of small goods producers. (V. I. Lenin, "Complete Works," Vol 43, p 225) The state extends credit to small producers who are associated in cooperation, thus weakening their dependence upon commercial usury capital, provides them with imported raw materials and equipment, buys export raw materials and goods from small producers, and sells their output. All of these measures place a barrier in the way of the development of local private capital and ensure the state the support of small producers.

Besides small producers, there are a large number of small capitalist enterprises in the liberated countries; that is, the kinds in which although the exploitation of hired labor does exist, without the personal participation of the entrepreneur in work the profits obtained would not ensure the continuation of the enterprise.

The petty bourgeois strata of the population supported the state of revolutionary democrats in its offensive against foreign capital, for this cleared the way for domestic private enterprise. But during the course of liberation from the competition of foreign capital these strata frequently made demands for a restriction of state intervention into their economic activities, for tax privileges, for the centralization of production and management, and so forth; they came out against state capitalism. All of this created the danger of the appearance of economic difficulties and of the petty capitalist strata growing closer to the reactionary forces. This causes a real concern among the progressive forces. For example, the Party of People's Revolution of Benin emphasizes that "the instability and vaccilation of these strata demands from the Party of People's Revolution of Benin and from the revolutionary state which is connected with it the firm management of these strata." (RABOCHIY KLASS I SOVREMENNYY MIR, No 6, 1977, p 163)

When the socialist orientation state began to restrain the growth of capitalism in the petty capitalist sector the latter began to offer resistance to the state. In Angola, for example, the owners of private freight trucks declared a strike; in Mozambique private entrepreneurs organized the mass slaughter of livestock; and in Mali, in 1964-1965, the private capitalists succeeded in creating a "parallel market." By increasing procurement prices, and by making use of the slightest errors of the cooperatives and state sales organizations, they succeeded, contrary to all of the regulations and laws, in having 85 percent of the rice produced in the country pass through the "parallel market." In Ethiopia, taking advantage of a shortage of grain and flour, small private traders inflated the prices for them. In Guinea local traders bought up the agricultural equipment in the cooperatives thereby hindering cooperation in agriculture. When the Guinean government, for example, decided in 1963 to decrease all prices by 10 percent many private traders organized a strike and closed their shops. (R. Barbe, "Social Classes in Black Africa," Moscow, 1966, p 200)

The liberated countries of Africa are not yet able to develop their economies at rapid rates without the constant enlistment of foreign capital. All of

these countries, although in varying degrees, still depend upon the world capitalist economic system. In Ethiopia 60 percent of the capital investments for economic development in the 1978-1979 financial year came from Western financial sources. (RABOCHIY KLASS I SOVREMENNYY MIR, No 2, 1980, p 140) In Algeria most of the industrial facilities were built with the participation of foreign companies within the framework of state capitalism. In all, during the period 1962-1975 contracts worth 47.7 billion dinars were concluded in the field of industrial construction. Of this amount, 50 percent was accounted for by the petroleum and gas industry, 12 percent by machine building, 11 percent--ferrous metallurgy, 10 percent--the production of construction materials, and 5 percent--the chemical industry. (MIROVAYA EKONOMIKA I MEZHDUNARODNYYE OTNOSHENIYA, No 8, 1976. Appendix, p 105)

In the People's Republic of the Congo foreign capital has been enlisted within the framework of state capitalism to participate in the development of the petroleum, mining, timbering, and woodworking industries, and in banking and trade. In 1974-1975 the state sector's share in the production of industrial output in the country came to 30 percent. (D. Dumnov and V. Lyusov, "The People's Republic of the Congo," Moscow, 1977, p 38) In the Program of the Congolese Labor Party it is emphasized that "the elimination of the private sector is the kind of process which has to take place without unnecessary haste, but also without delay." (Ibid., p 68)

Foreign capital within the framework of state capitalism is used in the socialist orientation countries for the creation of modern enterprises which require substantial initial investments. It is attracted for the development of natural resources, the development of the mining and petroleum industries, for the performance of expensive geological surveying work, the production of traditional agricultural export crops, and for the development of the processing and electrical engineering industries and for maritime and air transport.

The attraction of foreign capital into the liberated countries demands the establishment by the state of rigid control over it, since foreign companies attempt to intervene in the affairs of these countries, violate their sovereignty, freely dispose of their natural resources, corrupt administrations, do not recognize the rights of local trade unions, conduct a discriminatory policy in hiring local labor power, resist state intervention in their affairs, do not recognize the right of the state to nationalize their enterprises, demand that all of their profits be sent to the former metropolitan countries, and so forth.

The socialist orientation states try to prevent anti-popular activities by foreign capital. They regulate it with the help of commercial, tax, customs, credit, and investment laws.

In many socialist orientation countries state investment companies have been created and special "investment codes" are in effect which regulate the activities of foreign capital. Among the duties of these companies is to provide information to foreign entrepreneurs and to determine their privileges and

advantages in order to encourage especially useful investments. These companies create agencies for controlling the investments, and define their directions, amounts, and forms of application. They reject those investments which do not correspond to national interests and which infringe upon the state's sovereignty.

In attracting foreign capital the socialist orientation states demand from entrepreneurs the use of local labor power, the training at their enterprises of national cadres of specialists, and the construction for their workers of housing, schools, children's institutions, hospitals, and roads. They are obliged to provide workers with a guaranteed minimum wage and a seven-hour work day, to institute paid holidays for workers and employees and sickness benefits, and to observe hygienic working conditions at their enterprises. The use of child labor is categorically prohibited.

The privileges which are provided by the state to foreign capital depend upon the amount of its investments, the character of its output, the amount of employment it provides, the degree of its use of local raw materials, and the number of national specialists it trains. These privileges are expressed in a partial release from income taxes for several years, and from export and import duties. Foreign companies are given a guarantee against nationalization. They are taxed in a judicious manner. New foreign enterprises are released during the first years of their operations from profits taxes.

The state does not encourage all foreign investments. For example, in Ethopia, Tanzania, the Congo, Benin, and a number of other countries entire areas of production are closed to foreign investments. Foreign investments are prohibited in national banks and insurance companies, the defense industry, foreign trade, transportation, the construction of rental houses, and in municipal services.

The policies of the imperialist states in the field of investment in Africa facilitate the penetration and activities of private capital. However, despite this, the liberated African countries, including Benin, Guinea, the Congo, Madagascar, and Ethiopia have for the time being been compelled to accept an association with the European Economic Community, since only in this way is their raw material agricultural cutput permitted onto the Common Market without duties, and the undeveloped structure of exports requires trade relations with the developed countries. In addition, in order to increase the extraction and facilitate the exportation of raw materials to the West 40 percent of the funds which are allocated to Africa by the European Development Fund goes for the construction of railroads, highways, electric power stations, transmission lines, and communications.

The specialization of the African countries in raw materials extraction is putting them in a grave position today on account of the sharp fluctuations in world raw materials prices, the inflation in the developed capitalist countries, and the tremendous increase in prices for the industrial goods, equipment, machine tools, foods, and services which are imported by the developing countries. In 1951-1970 the Western monopolies increased prices for machinery

and equipment by 75 percent, while prices for agricultural technical raw materials decreased by 14 percent. In 1980 the prices for finished industrial goods and foods being imported into the liberated countries had increased compared to 1970 by more than three times. (KOMMUNIST, No 16, 1981, p 83) This was discussed at the 5th Conference of the Heads of State and Government of the Nonaligned Countries in Columbo in 1976 and at their 6th Conference in Havana in 1979. (L. I. Komlev, "A New Bill for Imperialism," Moscow, 1980, p 6) This was also discussed in Cancun in December 1981 at a meeting of the leaders of 22 states in which the President of the United States R. Reagan advertised an international variant of "Reaganomics," promising help only to those liberated countries which reject the policy of restricting market anarchy and stop holding back the growth of the private sector in their countries. (PRAVDA, 14 December 1981)

By means of their tariff systems the developed capitalist countries are stimulating the raw material specialization of the African countries. While the average tariff rate established by them for raw cotton is 2 percent, for cotton products it is 22 percent; while the rate for wood is 1 percent, for wood products it is 17 percent, and so forth. (E. Obminskiy, "Conceptions of International Economic Order," Moscow, 1977, p 150)

The multi-national corporations are mercilessly plundering the African countries. Thus, in 1978 the profits of the TNK [expansion unknown] of the United States came to 14 percent in the developed capitalist countries, and 65 percent in the liberated countries. According to official data, in 1976 the foreign debt of 45 independent African countries came to approximately 32 billion dollars. In 1979 it had increased to 35 billion dollars. (MIROVAYA EKONOMIKA I MEZHDUNARODNYYE OTONOSHENIYA, No 2, 1979, p 42)

L. I. Brezhnev said at the 26th CPSU Congress: "In the middle 1970s the former colonial countries posed the question of a new international economic order. The restructuring of international economic relations on a democratic basis, on a basis of principles of equal rights is dictated by historical law. Much can and has to be done here." ("Materials of the 26th CPSU Congress," p 15) These demands by the liberated countries are connected with the pursuit by the developed capitalist countries of a policy of intervention in the internal affairs of the liberated countries, and a policy of economic and political pressure on their political orientations. In order to offer resistance to the multi-national corporations the liberated countries are uniting in alliances of the OPEC type and others. A number of economic and customs unions which are operating in Western Africa (KEAO and EKOVAS), and such regional integration as the Association of Angola, Mozambique, Tanzania, and others for cooperation in the field of energy are a practical first step toward becoming free of neocolonialism. (PRAVDA, 18 February 1982) At the "South-South" Conference of Developing Countries in Delhi in February 1982 in which the representatives of 44 Asian, African, and Latin American states participated I. Gandhi emphasized the great importance of cooperation among the developing countries in the establishment of a new international economic order. (PRAVDA, 23 February 1982)

The world socialist system's help to the liberated countries is constantly increasing. The USSR has already built 280 objects in Africa, and is now building 600 more; of them, 160 are industrial enterprises. On 1 January 1965 the USSR abolished customs duties on all goods imported from the developing countries. This is influencing the relationships between the multi-national corporations and the developing countries. In 1975 the liberated countries succeeded in having the European economic community abolish duties for certain of its goods. At the present time the multi-national corporations are making investments not only in the raw materials but also in the processing industry of the liberated countries. The colonial economic structure which has been preserved in these countries does not create sufficiently large markets for the multi-national corporations. It is partly for this reason that in recent years there has been a shift to the liberated countries of obsolete or worn out equipment which is labor intensive and which pollutes the environment. Its sale in these countries is advantageous for the multi-national corporations. While it brings a certain profit, it speeds up the process of the modernization of production in the capitalist countries. As a rule, the multi-national corporations organize branches in the form of individual shops which are located in various countries. These shops produce semi-finished goods, and the assembly of the finished output occurs in the former metropolitan country. In this way the multi-national corporation insures its branches against nationalization and makes the liberated countries dependent upon their former masters.

One of the forms of socialist orientation state control over foreign capital is the legislative regulation of the activities of foreign companies, and a limitation upon the amount of profits which may be transferred by them abroad. In accordance with laws which have been adopted in the socialist orientation countries, the annual transfer abroad of the profits of foreign companies must not exceed 10-20 percent of their invested capital, and then only after five years of operation in the country. Foreign capital is permitted to conclude deals and increase production only within specific limits. It is permitted to exceed these limits only with the special permission of the government.

Foreign capital lends itself more easily to state regulation than national capital. When a foreign entrepreneur makes an attempt to get around state laws, or to violate his commitments, the state may annul his privileges, carry out a partial nationalization of his enterprise, or dissolve the contract with him in general. As a result of their sabotage, in 1976 the Congolese Government denounced its old contracts with foreign petroleum companies and announced the necessity of concluding new agreements which responded to the interests of both sides. (B. Dumnov and B. Lyusov, "The People's Republic of the Congo," p 72) In the 1970s in Angola, Benin, the Congo, Ethiopia and certain other countries individual previously concluded discriminatory trade and concessions agreements with foreigh enterprises were reviewed.

In a number of the socialist orientation countries the state opposes direct private investments in the national economy. It prohibits the creation of companies by foreign capital without the enlistment of national capital. In these countries the state has instituted the practice of concluding contracts

with foreign companies which have won bids for the construction of industrial facilities which are financed by the state. After the completion of the construction the facility becomes the property of the state. Moreover, the foreign companies are not co-owners of the enterprise, nor are they shareholders. They fulfill only the functions of a construction contractor. In the socialist orientation countries the state reserves the right to purchase from 51 to 61 percent of the shares of any enterprise. In this way mixed state-capitalist societies are created for the most part in the mining, petroleum, chemical, motor vehicle assembly, textile, and other branches of industry.

In certain socialist orientation countries some foreign concessions unite into a single association with some foreign company and exist under national jurisdiction, owning no more than 49 percent of the company's capital. Such associations bring the state greater profits than the simple taxation of foreign capital. As a rule, in these associations not less than 50 percent of the capital and 60 percent of the profits belong to the state. The president of the society is always a representative of the national administration, and the technical director is a foreign specialist. The state has the right to veto any of the society's decisions. Foreign capital is quite willing to create mixed associations, since it makes it possible to avoid a surprise nationalization, facilitates the sale of output, and provides tax privileges. Mixed associations have become widespread in Tanzania. The state has acquired 60 percent of the shares in eight of this country's largest industrial enterprises.

When this kind of association is created the state has the right to buy all of its shares. But it does this only when the enterprise is profitable, there is a demand for its output, the necessary cadres exist, and when it is able to perform the necessary management. Thus, through the purchase of shares state-capitalist enterprises turn into state-people's enterprises. In the socialist orientation countries nationalization by means of the confiscation of foreign enterprises is carried out extremely rarely. For example, in Algeria and Zanzibar enterprises which have been abandoned by foreigners were nationalized. As a rule, complete nationalization is carried out in loss-bearing branches of production, and also in such semi-official institutions as radio stations, printing establishments, and so forth. Usually, however, partial nationalization occurs with the creation of state-capitalist enterprises. Full nationalization is unprofitable, for a state does not have the necessary organizational and technical experience and cadres for the management of enterprises, and it has insufficient capital. In a number of cases the nationalization of foreign enterprises is carried out for the purpose of making more efficient use of them.

Foreign companies resist nationalization fiercely: foreign banks block national currency accounts, companies call back their specialists, cut back production, resort to wrecking equipment, provoke strikes at the enterprises, and engage in the illegal exportation of currency.

In order not to be subject to state regulation foreign capital tries to create in the liberated countries so-called "duty-free zones" which are a kind of

"state within a state." Such zones are created near seaports or airports and enjoy special privileges: foreign companies are released there from taxes, from social security payments, from a firmly defined minimum wage, and they are not obliged to admit trade unions into their enterprises. In these zones foreign entrepreneurs, taking advantage of mass unemployment, are under no control in hiring and dismissing workers, and arbitrarily establish wage amounts for workers and employees.

In the developing countries of Africa there is a growing understanding of the imperialist character of the policy of the formation of "duty-free zones." These countries are showing increasing resoluteness in nationalizing foreign capital. In 1960-1977 628 branches of transnational companies were nationalized south of the Sahara, and 319 in Northern Africa. (KOMMUNIST, No 16, 1981, p 78)

Nationalization has affected primarily the extracting industry and plantations, and banks and insurance companies. The most decisive nationalization has been carried out in Angola, Ethiopia, Algeria, and Libya. In such countries as Benin, the Congo, Guinea, Tanzania, Madagascar, and Mozambique entire branches of industry were closed for foreign investments. In Ethiopia, Angola, Benin, the Congo and other liberated countries discriminatory trade and concessions agreements were eliminated or altered.

Sometimes nationalization was carried out in individual countries without sufficient thought and hastily, and without the necessary managerial cadres. As a result, frequently the positions were rapidly seized by the national bourgeoisie. However, all of the developing countries recognize without question the progressive importance of nationalization for national liberation.

Since the mid-1970s the processes of nationalization have become stronger in the African socialist orientation countries. At the present time in most of them the positions of the local big bourgeoisie and of the feudalists have been totally undermined, and the activities of foreign capital have been substantially restricted.

In his "Greetings to the States and Peoples of Africa on the Occasion of African Liberation Day," L. I. Brezhnev wrote: "The Soviet Union is entirely on the side of the African and all of the liberated states in their struggle for economic independence, against the dominion of imperialist monopolies, for genuine equal rights in international relations, and for the complete and unconditional right to dispose at one's own discretion of one's own natural resources." (PRAVDA, 25 May 1981)

In their struggle the socialist orientation African countries are using state capitalism as a precondition for the creation of a socialist economy.

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2959
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LEGAL PROTECTION FOR FAMILY, HOUSING DISCUSSED IN TURKMEN PAPER

Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 12 Oct 82 p 2

[Article by N. Galaktionova, member of the Supreme Court of the Turkmen SSR: "In This Country a Person Has the Right...."]

[Excerpt] The USSR Constitution proclaims the right of our country's citizens to housing. This right legally guarantees to Soviet citizens provision of improved housing conditions when needed. There are material and legal guarantees of implementation of this constitutional right. They include the following: mass housing construction, proper care and maintenance of existing state and public housing, assignment to citizens of decent apartments as the housing construction program is carried out, with observance of fairness in distribution of housing space under public scrutiny, state assistance to cooperative and private individual housing construction, as well as low rents and utility rates.

In conformity with the USSR Constitution, in June 1981 the USSR Supreme Soviet adopted the Principles of Housing Legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics. In the course of discussion of the draft Principles of Housing Legislation, more than 20,000 suggestions and comments were received from citizens, workforces, public organizations, and government agencies, many of which were incorporated in the final version of the Principles.

In contrast to previous laws, the Principles do not specify the possibility of forced seizure of surplus living space. This is an additional guarantee of the right of Soviet citizens to housing.

The Principles have introduced a number of new provisions governing matters connected with eviction of citizens. Eviction is permitted only for reasons specified by law and must be effected in the main by legal process. Previous laws permitted eviction without offering compensatory housing for persons occupying housing owned by an organization and terminating employment with that organization in connection with voluntary resignation or discharge for violation of labor discipline. Now eviction in such cases is permitted only when other quarters are offered in exchange.

A. I. Fadeyeva was employed by a geophysical survey organization. She received an apartment from that organization. In February 1982 the management of the geophysical organization brought suit to evict Fadeyeva from her apartment

without offering her other housing in exchange, inasmuch as she had voluntarily quit her job. The people's court dismissed the suit, since the geophysical survey organization had failed to offer A. I. Fadeyeyva other housing accommodation.

Passage of the Principles of Housing Legislation by the USSR Supreme Soviet constituted one more vivid manifestation of the concern on the part of the Communist Party and Soviet State for the welfare of Soviet citizens.

From the very first days of its existence, the Soviet State has shown and continues to show comprehensive concern for the family and for bringing up the younger generation. The USSR Constitution formally states in its provisions the principles of the structure of the family and takes it under the protection of the state.

The interests of the individual and of society as a whole are harmoniously combined within the Soviet family. A healthy climate in the family promotes a proper upbringing of the younger generation, influences a person's attitudes, and consequently affects one's labor productivity.

It is not mere happenstance that Soviet law specifies that relations between spouses, the conditions of entering into marriage and its dissolution cannot be considered the private affair of the spouses involved. They affect the interests of society as a whole. And further strengthening of the family and affirmation in the family of the principles of Communist morality is a task of Soviet legislation.

Further strengthening of the family, grounded on equality before the law, commonality of interests, a feeling of mutual love, friendship and affection -- this is the goal of Soviet laws on marriage and the family. Knowledge of and proper utilization of one's rights, as well as execution of one's obligations in the family are mandatory for all. It is the lofty duty of each and every Soviet family to raise and educate their children as worthy citizens of the USSR.

3024
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UKRAINIAN STUDY OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN UZBEKISTAN PRAISED

Moscow FILOSOFSKIYE NAUKI in Russian No 6, Nov-Dec 82 pp 161-162

[Book review by Professor K.I. Ivanova, doctor of philosophical sciences; Professor V.S. Nikitchenko, doctor of philosophical sciences; and professor Zh.T. Tulenov, doctor of philosophical sciences.

The book being reviewed, published as part of a series entitled "In the constellation of fraternal republics", takes stock of the road travelled by Soviet Uzbekistan during the years of Soviet power. In that period the republic attained an unprecedented level of development, turning from "a land of universal illiteracy" to a "republic of high culture, advanced science, technology, literature and the arts" (p 7-8).

The aim of this study is to scrupulously trace the laws governing the socialist cultural revolution in Turkestan whose prerequisite and basic precondition was the victory of socialism, the eradication of social inequality, the establishment of socialist ownership of the means of production and the creation of the multinational Soviet state on socialist and internationalist principles.

The book vividly and convincingly demonstrates the national rebirth of the Uzbek people after the establishment of the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic in 1924. Analyzing the unfolding of the cultural revolution that began under incredibly difficult conditions, the book's authors reveal the objective and subjective causes of those difficulties. They stress the enormous contribution made by Russian scientists who dedicated all their energy and knowledge to the formation of national cadres, the development of higher education and the incipience of Soviet Uzbekistan's spiritual culture.

This part of the book is of interest to the reader not only because it sheds light on past history, but also because it vividly presents the practical experience of the Uzbek people which can to a lesser or greater degree be taken into consideration and absorbed by the peoples of the developing countries.

The most important factor in the incipience and development of a distinctive national culture is the cultural heritage, the historical past of the people. A brief analysis of the works of such thinkers of the past as

Farabi, Abu Ali Ibn Sin, Biruni, Ulugbek, Navoi and others demonstrates full well the outstanding qualities of the Uzbek cultural heritage which represents an important chapter in the story of world culture as well. A significant contribution to the further development of Uzbek culture was made by Zavki, Avaz-Otar-Ogly, S. Aini, Hamza Hakim-zade-Niyazi and others whose works are a bridge, as it were, linking the past with the present (see p 49).

"A ray of light in the dark kingdom of illiteracy" is how the authors of the book titled one of its chapters in which they show how the domination of the feudal lords, the capitalists and the colonialists not only deprived the working people of access to the treasures of national and world culture, but of the possibility to acquire an elementary literacy as well. The authors demonstrate the decisive role of the Great October Socialist Revolution in shaping the destiny of the peoples of former tsarist Russia, in their liberation from the spiritual oppression they were subjected to in the past. The revolution laid the groundwork for eliminating the exploitation of the toiling masses and thus the building of a new socialist economy and culture was unfolded.

In 1926, in accordance with a decision laid down by the Uzbek SSR Council's Central Executive Committee, a special republic commision was established to work out a new Uzbek alphabet which led to the publication as early as 1928 of a newspaper using the new script. This was greatly aided by a CPSU(B) Central Committee decree of May 24, 1929 "On the work of the party organization of Uzbekistan" whereby the latter and the Central Asian bureau of the CPSU(B) Central Committee were handed the task of utilizing to the maximum all available financial and material resources to expand their activities in the cultural field, especially in the matter of eliminating illiteracy and publishing literature in the local languages.

All this created very favorable conditions for a harmonious development of the individual and served as one of the genuine factors behind the continued spiritual progress of the Uzbek people.

Much attention is devoted in the book to the problem of creating and developing the Soviet school system as one of the most important elements in spiritual progress. The authors point out that the evolution of the Soviet school went hand in hand with overall social progress, the consolidation of Soviet power, the alliance of the working class with the peasantry and, finally, the continued development of cooperation and mutual assistance between the nations and national groups of the USSR. Quite a few shortcomings, however, were tolerated in the initial period of this school program, including in the issue of preparing pupils for enrollment in institutions of higher learning and specialized intermediate technical schools (see p 65). Enormous credit for the correction of these faults must go to the well-known (CPSU(B) Central Committee decrees "On elementary and secondary schools" of Sep 5, 1931, "On the curricula and procedure in elementary and secondary schools" of Aug 25, 1932 and others.

These and other problems were resolved thanks to the successful implementation of the Communist party's Leninist social and national policies, and today the Soviet school system (including that of Uzbekistan) serves as a model of universal education for the peoples of the entire world.

As is well known, the yardstick of social progress for any country in general and the countries of the East in particular, is the prevalent attitude to the problem of social equality for women, of involving them in the sociopolitical and cultural life of the country. A mere 16 years after the establishment of the republic Uzbek girls accounted for 44% of schoolchildren. Behind that figure lies a complex, at time dramatic history of struggle between the old and the new, shattering conservative outlooks, customs and traditions which culminated with the victory of social equality and justice.

This, then, was how one of the more complex problems of the cultural revolution in the republics of Central Asis was resolved. It should be pointed out that the authors of the monograph view the inception and development of the Soviet school system in Uzbekistan not as an end in itself, but as a necessary state in resolving the problem of training highly qualified national cadres. Here, the authors found a successful style in combining historical research of the republic's spiritual growth with a vivid and convincing demonstration of its present-day life.

Also of interest is the section devoted to the growth of science and the increase in the number of scientific cadres in the republic. The authors deserve to be commended that they were able to clearly demonstrate the farsightedness of the Communist party's national policy, of the wisdom and profundity of Lenin's ideas on the development of science.

The first elementary and secondary schools had just appeared when on Sep 20, 1920, in accordance with a decree signed by Lenin, the University of Tashkent first opened its doors. By 1973 there were 23 institutions of higher education in Uzbekistan with a total enrollment of 15,000 students. In the prewar years Uzbekistan trained specialists not only for itself, but for Kazakhstan and the other Central Asian republics as well.

The book amply demonstrates that the growth of science in Uzbekistan proceeded in close connection with the overall spiritual development of the country and that its main aim was to serve the people. The wealth of factual material attests that the republic's scientists played a major role in developing its natural resources, irrigating hitherto arid lands, transforming the Hungry Steppe and successfully achieving the state's goals for cotton production.

The reader's interest will undoubtedly be drawn to the book's analysis of the development of Uzbek literature from the time it first adopted the modern script. This covers the works of the father of Uzbek Soviet literature Hamza Hakim-zade-Niyazi, and also analyzes the writings of contemporary authors Aini, Aibek, G. Guliam, H. Alimdjan, Sh. Rashidov, Uigun and others.

One important conclusion reached by the authors is that in our day and age mutual influences are a conduit for enriching the ideologic and artistic levels of national cultures. Given a single ideological and aesthetic preference and a single method, that of socialist realism, the artist is seen as a spokesman for the socio-aesthetic ideals of communism (see p 224).

The book is written in an easy and lively style and is well illustrated. It demonstrates convincingly that human potential in social and spiritual development is inexhaustible. The publication of the book in Ukrainian confirms the reality of the unity and the interreaction of national cultures; it bears witness to the development of one people's spiritual culture in the constellation of fraternal republics of our great multinational motherland.

It is our view that in demonstrating the links that bind Uzbekistan's spiritual culture with that of other fraternal republics, the authors should not have limited themselves to the RSFSR and the Ukraine: more information ought to have been provided on its links with the national cultures of other Soviet peoples.

It is our belief that the arsenal of research into the history and theory of culture has been broadened by this new and interesting work, one which contributes significantly to the study of the laws governing the spiritual progress of the Soviet Union's peoples. The book provides a sufficiently complete understanding of the development of one fraternal republic's spiritual culture and may be recommended for use in scientific research, ideological education and political instruction.

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MEASURES FOR STIMULATING WORK OF PRIVATE PLOTS

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Oct 82 p 2

[Article by A. Kuznetsov, deputy chairman of the Kostroma Oblast Council of People's Deputies ispolkom: "Private Subsidiary Farming"]

[Text] Ivan Ivanovich Purey, a war and labor veteran, lives in the rayon center of Antropovo. His homestead is not so great. Nevertheless, during the last five-year plan, he sold quite a bit of dietary meat and 1,026 excellent fur skins to the state and 625 pedigree rabbits to near and distant acquaintances. Ivan Ivanovich's pension is completely sufficient for him to sit carefree by a television or by a river with a fishing rod. However, he does not think that it is possible for him not to be of use to society while he still has the health and strength to work a personal plot. Based on the results of the last five-year plan, he was one of the winners in the all-union socialist competition among the amateur rabbit breeders, and his indicators in this matter are rather high today.

Rabbit breeding is by no means a traditional type of domestic farming in our oblast. It is just gathering strength. Nevertheless, the rabbit breeders turned over to the state and sold to consumer cooperatives 70 tons of meat and 80,000 skins last year.

Each master of a farmstead,of course, himself decides what he will plant or sow on the personal plot and what cattle or fowl he will keep. There are, however, those who habitually simply go to the store for every liter of milk, kilogram of meat and dozen of eggs. Whereas this is normal for the city, it would seem that it is not for the village. They do not say without reason that a village inhabitant without a farmstead is like a tree without roots. Consequently, it is necessary to create the conditions for reviving the people's interest in keeping a private subsidiary plot and to stimulate this interest in the appropriate manner. An important role here undoubtedly belongs to the local councils.

We recently conducted group meetings in Kostroma, Galich, Manturovo, and Sharya on questions concerning the development of the citizens private subsidiary plots and on increasing purchases of food items from the population. The chairmen and secretaries of rayon, settlement and village council ispolkoms

and the directors of kolkhozes, sovkhozes and a number of economic and trade organizations participated in them. During these meetings, experiences were summarized and specific measures were planned which should raise this important task to a new level.

In the implementation of the Food Program, an important place is being allotted to the individual sector. I will cite the following figures. This year, 103,000 tons of milk, 23,800 tons of meat, 70 million eggs, and 145 tons of wool will be produced on the private subsidiary plots of our oblast. The proportion of animal husbandry product purchases from the population is reaching four percent of the overall volume of milk and nine percent of that for meat.

It is important to organize matters so that all links of the private subsidiary plots will be strongly knit together and so that each one can easily without nervous strain and wasted expenditures of time not only acquire everything needed for his farmstead but also realize a surplus of produced items.

It is possible to demonstrate how this can be done in practice using as an example the work of the Unorozhskiy rural council in Galichskiy Rayon, which has repeatedly been the initiator and winner of the socialist competition to purchase products from the population. First of all I would like to point out that the ispolkom of the village council and its chairman, V. Kulikov, were able to enlist a large aktiv in the work. They established close and permanent contacts with the directors and specialists of the farms located on the council's territory. This contributed a great deal to the success.

They began with the usual, but -- it seems to me -- the most important thing: The deputies and activists travelled to all the farmsteads of the near and far villages, thoroughly and patiently talked with each family, ascertained capabilities, and wrote down advice and suggestions. All this was then discussed during an ispolkom meeting. When the ispolkom had thoroughly studied the situation and developed concrete proposals, it went with them to the management boards of the kolkhozes. As a result, joint specific measures appeared. They were discussed during rural meetings in all the villages. People of different ages and in particular, of course, pensioners who quite frequently keep a rural farmstead participated in the gatherings.

The ispolkom of the rural council and the boards of the kolkhozes helped those,who were already keeping or who wished to keep cattle, to repair the outbuildings, to build new ones, and to acquire calves. They were also concerned about fodder -- hay fields and pastures were assigned in immediate proximity to the hamlets, and the participants in the kolkhoz laying-in of fodder received hay in accordance with the proportion of expended work. This attracted to the kolkhoz meadows numerous city dwellers who were vacationing during the summer in the villages of their relatives and acquaintances.

The number of cattle, especially cows, as well as that of pigs, sheep and poultry increased on the farmsteads of the rural council. It is pleasant that young families and people of different occupations: for example, machine operators A. Koreshkov and V. Petukhov, planner N. Kolevatykh, teacher V.

Nikolayeva, and medical worker A. Solov'yeva, acquired cattle and fowl. As time has shown, the keeping of a private subsidiary plot not only does not interfere with their main work but also helps it by disciplining the individual and instilling the feeling of a true proprietor whose two feet are firmly planted on the ground.

Purchases also increased here. A. Bereznikova, for example, sold the state more than three tons of milk from her private farmstead, and retired teacher B. Sobolev-- two tons. All told, more than 600 tons of milk and a great deal of meat and wool have already been purchased from the private plots on the territory of the rural council. However, we think that the major purchases are still ahead of us.

An oblast coordinating council for developing private subsidiary plots was approved at the beginning of this year by a decision of the ispolkom of the oblast council of peoples deputies. The directors of soviet and agricultural bodies, consumer cooperatives, specialized associations and trusts, and processing industry enterprises are members of it. Such councils were also created in the rayon ispolkoms. In the agricultural department, the first deputy head of the department is now responsible for the management of the private subsidiary plots, and the position of senior specialists has also been introduced. This has permitted the level of leadership and control to be raised, the responsibility of executives at all levels to be increased, and steps to be taken effectively in those places where obstacles and messes arise. The quarterly publication of statistical data about the number of cattle and fowl on the private subsidiary plots; on the progress in purchasing milk, meat and wool; and on the sale of young animals and fodder to the population has been arranged.

The awarding of animals as prizes to progressive workers (of course, considering their interests and wishes) has been broadly incorporated into the practices of many rayons and rural councils: Who gets a suckling pig and who -- a calf.

It has been decided to allot to citizens, who have cattle, up to one hectare of haying land for a prolonged period and to give them an extra five-one hundredths of the land from the reserve personal plot assets in order to grow root-crops. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes have also taken upon themselves the veterinary care of the private cattle and are helping in the selection of pastures and in organizing pasturage. Understandably, cares have increased significantly, but they are being repaid a hundredfold.

All these measures are insuring a growth in the production of agricultural items on the private personal plots. However, life demonstrates that affairs progress more quickly and better in those places where the sale of surpluses is arranged skilfully and where there are economic incentives for expanding the farmstead. Of course, the kolkhoz farmer will keep everything that he has grown at his house; nothing will be wasted. It is important, however, that more of the products which have been produced by him, get to the common table.

At the same time, we still have frequent cases where a peasant's farmstead is filled with animals, but he is not able to sell the surplus of milk and meat in a timely fashion: Sometimes the work of the purchasers is poorly organized, at other times the consumer cooperative workers have overlooked something. Not everyone will travel far to a market during the winter and, especially, during the busy time. In such cases, the individual is forced to produce on his farmstead only as much as he needs for his family although there exists capabilities and the desire to produce two-threefold more. This means that the accurate organization of purchasing is not only a state necessity but also an effective economic incentive for developing private subsidiary plots.

In the Pochinkovskiy rural council of Susaninskiy Rayon, the deputies have made it a practice to account weekly for the surpluses of products which are intended for sale -- without omitting a single farmstead, and are helping to conclude long-term contracts for their sale. Here, permanently operating points for receiving milk have been created, conscientious collectors have been selected, and the necessary transportation and packaging have been earmarked for them. Moral and material incentive measures have been provided for the collectors and the results of their competition are regularly summed up. Those, who turn over the item, have not been overlooked. The best of them are singled out in village gatherings and kolkhoz and trade union meetings. The ispolkom of the rural council and the management board of the kolkhoz send them letters of gratitude. These-- at first glance trivial -- details in the final analysis are an extremely effective agitation measure for increasing the contribution of the private subsidiary plots to the solution of the food problem.

Nevertheless, the experience of progressive workers is still obviously being used insufficiently. The ispolkom of the oblast council recently studied and examined in a meeting the work practices of the soviet bodies of Krasnoselskiy Rayon in developing the private subsidiary plots and in purchasing animal husbandry products from the population. This was caused by the fact that the purchases of milk, meat and wool here have now not only not increased but have even decreased when compared with last year. What was the reason? As it turned out, many rural councils had neglected this important work and did not help the people to acquire young animals, lay in fodder and repair and construct housing for livestock and poultry. The rayon's rural farmstead are now short 77 cows and 127 sheep.

The local councils of Parfenyevskiy, Kostromskiy, Kadyyskiy, and Buyskiy Rayons are working below their capability in this regard. The ispolkom of the oblast council has demanded that their directors correct the situation before the end of the year and take the progress of the work under their unremitting control. Expanded sessions of the executive committees have taken place in the rayons, and sessions and gatherings of citizens -- in rural councils. Schedules for receiving livestock have been worked out and published, and travelling brigades for purchasing livestock from the population in local areas have been organized. At the same time, the sale of suckling pigs to the population is being expanded. All told, 50,000 of them have been sold. The "Ptitseprom" Trust has sent 430,000 young birds to the village for sale.

As is pointed out in the USSR Food Program, the decisive role in increasing the production of agricultural products belongs to kolkhozes and sovkhozes. The main attention of the Kostroma village workers has been directed toward worthily greeting the 60th anniversary of the Soviet state and toward fulfilling plans and socialist obligations ahead of time. However, by strengthening the economy of the farms and by increasing the productivity of the fields and farms, they are trying to make wider use of the capabilities of the individual sector so that more milk, meat, eggs, and other products will come to the common table from the private farmsteads.

8802
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BOOK ON PROGNOSTICATION REVIEWED

Moscow KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 19 Oct 82 p2

[Review by Yu. Danilin of book "Rabochaya kniga po prognozirovaniyu" [A Work Book for Prognosticating] editor-in-chief I. V. Bestuzhev-Lada, "Mysl'", 1982]

[Text] The future is different. There is only one thing which we still cannot control according to our wishes -- weather forecasting. The forecasting of science, technology, economics, and culture, where a great deal can be changed by actions (including a regard for what has been forecast) and where, therefore, it is important not so much to foresee what will be as to "weigh" the consequences of the decisions which are made, bring out long-range problems and determine different solution methods, is quite another matter. The interconnection of a forecast and a solution in politics is even closer. However, no matter how we undertake to judge about the future, we will in any case use three methods: We mentally continue into future years the observed development line of some phenomenon (this is called extrapolation), we try to present this phenomenon in a simplified schematic form (modeling), and finally, we ask expert specialists to give an evaluation of the prospects for the development of the phenomenon. Separately, these methods are not especially reliable: The line of development can change, the model may be incomplete and onesided, there is no guarantee that the expert will not be mistaken, etc. However, taken together, as if they "insured" each other, they are capable of forming a basis for a methodology with whose help a completely reliable forecast is obtained.

Thus, a forecast, it seems, is not simply a prophecy, but the result of special scientific research (prognosticating). The methodology of this research is not the same for all of life's events, but is peculiar to each individual event depending on what is being forecast and how it is being forecast. This is why there cannot be any special "science of the future". A forecast, just as, for example, an analysis or a diagnosis, is a matter for each science. Consequently, each specialist -- no matter in what area of science or technology he works -- must have an idea of forecasting tools and should be able to "peer into the future". If there is no place for the "science of the future" within the system of existing sciences, the "science of ways to investigate the future" and of the laws for developing forecasts can and must be developed.

This science exists. It is called prognostication and the recently published "Rabochaya kniga po prognozirovaniyu" [A Work Book for Prognosticating], which was prepared by a group of specialists -- members of the Committee for Forecasting Scientific and Technical Progress which is attached to the All-Union Council of Scientific and Technical Societies (the editor-in-chief is I. V. Bestuzhev-Lada), is devoted to it. In the book, basic forecasting concepts are revealed and a brief historical sketch is given.

A special section of the book consists of 20 essays on the main forecasting areas -- in the natural and technical sciences (hydrometeorology, geology, biology, medicine, etc.) , in geography and ecology, in the social sciences, and in politics and military affairs. The institutions and organizations, who are developing such forecasts both in our country and abroad, are discussed in detail.

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READERS' LETTERS DISCUSS INDIFFERENCE TO LAWBREAKING

Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Sep 82 p 11

[Article: "The Humaneness of the Law Is Not All-forgivingness: Reflections on Letters Concerning the Price of Indifference and an Active Position in Life"]

> [Text] Readers of our newspaper have responded in large number to the articles by K. Kuliyev, "Sun Spots," A. Markov, "The Price of Indifference" (LG [LITERATURNAYA GAZETA], No 8), and N. Dorizo, "Someone Else's Pain" (LG, No. 23). The editorial office received more than 500 letters, the writers of which study the reasons for the indifference that gives rise to antisocial acts, and sometimes even crimes, and who write about the need to instill in young people a sense of justice, spiritual generosity, and kindness. Almost all the responses that have been received deal, in one way or another, with the work of the agencies of the militia, which has been called upon to wage a decisive, uncompromising struggle against the lawbreakers. . . The request to comment upon the most typical readers' letters was made by our correspondent, N. Turovskaya, to B. V. Zabotin, USSR Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs.

The practice of punishment with respect to persons who have committed crimes is so lenient that various kinds of "unstable elements" have come to believe in all-forgivingness and are no longer afraid of punishment.

The lack of assurance that the criminal will be made to answer for his crime gives rise to passivity among the population.

K. Kazaryuk, Novosibirsk

One can scarcely agree with the author of the letter if one has in mind the practice as a whole, rather than individual episodes. In our country a reasonably humane and reasonably strict system of punishments is in effect. Those who, for the first time in their lives, have committed a relatively unimportant crime, or one that does represent any great danger to society, and who have admitted that they were at fault, can have applied to them a measure of administrative or public

action. And it would be unjust to put those persons in the category of those who "have come to believe in all-forgivingness." We have the postponement of execution of sentence. We have a system of measures of punishment that does not involve the deprivation of freedom [incarceration]. And that completely corresponds to the Leninist principle: "the preventive importance of punishment is influenced in no way by its rigidity, but by its irreversibility."

I think that the passivity of certain people with respect to bullyism, the use of foul language, and other antisocial acts is explained most readily by the same indifference that was mentioned in A. Markov's article.

Actually, in certain cities and populated places, provision has not yet been made for the proper social order. Acts of robbery and burglary are committed. Because of temporary difficulties in supply, there has been an increase in the actions taken by speculators. And drunkards and debauchers are still present.

However, the humaneness of Soviet legislation does not have anything in common with all-forgivingness. We have never had, and we shall never have, any leniency toward murderers, vicious hooligans, rapists, persons who steal socialist property, persons who deal in illegal currency operations, bribers, and speculators, to whom the court, as a rule, metes out a strict measure of punishment.

During the years of the Soviet authority, crime has dropped considerably and there has been a corresponding decrease in the number of persons who have been sentenced. There has also been a change in the nature of the violations, and the social danger of many of them has become different in its essence.

Recently we people in Riga have seen an increase in the number of instances when absolutely innocent persons have been beaten up. They were not robbed, no money was taken from them, but they were beaten up, "just for fun," by young guys. I do not know what sentence is given for beating up people like this, but apparently it's a short one if the "fun-lovers" feel that they are so privileged.

V. Petrov, Riga

In June 1981 the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Court adopted the Ukase entitled "The Intensification of Responsibility for Hooliganism." For commission of the vicious acts that V. Petrov writes about, as well as actions linked with the offering of resistance to a representative of the authority or of the public who is executing the duties of protecting law and order, a person is sentenced to deprivation of freedom for a period of up to 5 years. I assume that the author will agree that the law precludes any granting of "privileges" to hooligans. The reproach here should be directed primarily to the militia and the headquarters of the volunteer people's *druzhinas* [home guards] in Riga which have not been able to restrain these young men promptly, and also, to a certain degree, to those citizens who were standing nearby, but did not act promptly to stop the impudent hooligans. "Comrades, we have adopted a large number of good laws," L. I. Brezhnev stated at the 26th CPSU Congress. "What has to be done now is to assure their precise and unswerving execution, because any law lives only when it is executed -- executed by all and everywhere."

It's not the citizens' job to get involved in a fight. No people's *druzhinas* or other volunteer organizations can provide law and order. The agency that is supposed to engage in problems of combatting hooliganism is the exterior guard, but it does not exist. There are 10,000 people living in our settlement of Verbilki, but during the night the station is locked up.

N. Semenov, settlement of Verbilki,
Moscow Oblast

Unfortunately, I have had to hear statements such as this many times before. Certain people feel that it is somehow dishonorable or unworthy to get involved in a conflict or at least to report what has happened to the militia. There are special agencies, they reason, who are supposed to engage in this, they have the service for doing it, and they get paid to do it. Frankly speaking, these words convey the very same kind of indifference.

As everyone knows, each of us has not only rights, but also obligations. And one of them is the constitutional obligation of being implacable toward antisocial acts, of taking all steps to promote the preservation of public order, of guarding the people's wealth, and of protecting the interests of the state against any criminal encroachments.

As for the activities of the formations made up of public citizens, there exist, without a doubt, considerable potential opportunities for improving them. At certain stations for preservation of order and in certain volunteer people's *druzhinas*, the work that is carried out is sometimes of a formal nature and is based on stereotypic action. There has been insufficient selectivity in the methods of exercising coercion on lawbreakers. There have also been those inadmissible instances when the station for the preservation of order has been locked up, as N. Semenov writes. However, I want to emphasize that the elimination of such shortcomings is our common task: it is a task for the workers in the militia, the members of the *druzhinas*, and the public.

I can well remember the postwar period when, literally at every step, in Moscow and in other cities, there was a militia post, when armed patrols of MVD troops walked the streets at night, and every large building had yardkeepers on duty. But, for some reason, we don't have those now.

Preventive means of combatting crime are of great importance. It would be a good thing for every militia station to organize initiative groups which would report to the workers of the ROVD [rayon internal affairs station?] about unfavorable adolescents who have an amoral way of life, and thus would help the militia to prevent any possible hooligan acts or crimes.

Yu. Sendyukov, Moscow

At the present time, first-priority attention is being directed toward the prevention of crime. In almost all cities there has been an intensification of the patroling by mobile detachments of the militia, which are provided with reliable radio communication. The routes are determined with a consideration of the analysis of the "geography" of the violations and of the other circumstances that are of importance for guaranteeing public order. In addition, the militia detachments are aided on the streets every day by the thousands of people in the people's *druzhinas*.

Special prevention detachments are functioning in the internal affairs agencies. The preventive work is carried out by the public stations for the preservation of order. Created for the first time on the initiative of the party organizations of Moscow, Leningrad, and Kaliningrad, these formations have become widespread. In many cities, as a result of the comprehensive measures applied by the workers of the militia and the public, there has been a reduction in the so-called street crime. But this process has not yet been noted everywhere and it requires the corresponding reinforcement. The internal affairs agencies are constantly improving the system of work to prevent crime and to protect the public order.

The censuring of indifference is only a formal, theoretical aspect of a problem that is important for society. It is necessary to mete out punishment for the displayed indifference, if not legally, then necessarily morally, and to give broad publicity to the facts in the labor collectives. . . . But, on the other hand, civic action that has been displayed should necessarily be rewarded and also should be broadly propagandized. One could, for example, establish a pretty badge to be worn on the chest. At enterprises, in institutions, and at educational institutions, it would be a good idea to post information about lawbreakers and about the persons who waged the struggle against them.

V. Bondar', Tselinograd

The author of the letter poses the question correctly. In the fight against antisocial manifestations, as has been repeatedly emphasized by L. I. Brezhnev, it is necessary to use all the means that we have at our disposal: the opinion of the working collective, the critical word of the press, the methods of persuasion, and the force of the law.

Incidentally, in our society indifference is censured not only from the point of view of morality. For example, failure to report grievous crimes which are known to be in preparation or which have have been committed can, in definite instances, result in the person's being brought to criminal responsibility.

As for rewarding citizens for taking active part in the protection of the public order, I can say that we have sufficient means and possibilities for doing this. For members of the people's *druzhinas*, for example, there have been established such forms of reward as the expression of appreciation, the awarding of a Certificate of Honor, of a valuable gift or a monetary bonus, of the chest badge "Outstanding *Druzhina* Member," the inclusion of the person's name in the honor book or

on the Honor Roll, as well as the granting of an additional paid leave of up to three days, the preferential right to receive housing, and a preferential trip ticket to sanatoriums and vacation homes. In recognition of meritorious action in the execution of one's civic duty and the bravery and heroism manifested at that time, *druzhina* members have their names submitted for the awarding of USSR orders and medals.

We do not have the right to beat up a hooligan, and if, God forbid, we strike him, we are threatened by criminal responsibility. Therefore many people come to the conclusion that it is better not to become involved. The militia explains that we are supposed to disarm the criminal, to tie him up, to placate him. That's easy to say, but it's hard to do, especially since the criminal is often armed.

V. Kotov, Moscow Oblast

In this instance the author of the letter is not completely correct, or it may be that he is simply insufficiently informed. Those who protect law and order actually are asked to meet high demands with regard to their observance of socialist legality. In their actions there can be no place for crudeness, much less the laying on of hands. Even when detaining violators the workers of the militia and the members of the *druzhinas* should display restraint and a high level of culture. The Leninist requirement that we "learn how to fight in a cultured way for legality" continues to be vitally important today.

At the same time, the actions of citizens which are directed at the stopping of hooliganism and the restraining of the criminal are completely admissible and do not result in being brought either to criminal or another other kind of responsibility, even if, at such time, it was necessary to inflict harm upon the criminal. Within the limits of the necessary defense or extreme necessity when stopping a criminal act, the law feels that it is justified, under certain conditions, to apply physical force. As for putting up resistance to a worker of the militia or to a member of a people's *druzhina*, as I have already said, this is characterized as a criminally punishable offense. Thus, the persons performing their official or civic duty not only enjoy broad rights and powers, but, in addition, their life and health, their honor and dignity, are reliably protected by Soviet law.

In my opinion, our bureaucratic methods, which in individual instances have been legalized, are an obstacle in the fight against hooliganism. Many people do not want to be a witness, because they know that "they'll drag us through all the departments" for the giving of depositions. It is necessary to simplify the procedure of investigation.

I. Karasik, Moscow

The proposal made by the author of the letter is not without substantiation. There have been instances when, in the interests of objectivity and the completeness of investigation, repeated interrogations are simply necessary, but sometimes they

are carried out on the basis of shortcomings in the organization of the investigation. The USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs has directed the attention of the appropriate administrators to these serious shortcomings and has provided the necessary instructions for eliminating them.

I would also like to add that today also, when detaining a person who has committed an act of hooliganism without mitigating circumstances, an official report is drawn up on the spot. That report, together with the explanations by the violator, the victim, and the witnesses, is sent, with the sanction of the procurator, directly to the court.

The list of evil deeds (I can think of no other term for them) of adolescents, as described by K. Kuliyev and A. Markov in their articles, could, unfortunately, be continued, but I see no sense in that. A more important question is: where did our children get this brutality from, and how can we eradicate these, in general, untypical phenomena?

I see the root of the evil in the shortage of ideological education from the children's early years and -- most importantly -- in the lack on the part of the adolescents of any love or respect for labor, or a desire to be as useful as possible to society.

L. Masyuk, Belgorod-Dnestrovskiy

One cannot fail to agree with the author's opinion. Because of serious flaws in their education, certain young people display a consumer attitude toward life, a nihilism, selfish tendencies, and a disrespectful attitude toward rules and norms of behavior. Unfortunately, the tenderhearted parents, instead of preventing the development of amoral features, and without even noticing it themselves, frequently indulge the adolescents and even attempt to conceal their unworthy behavior, especially when it is a matter of responsibility for what they have done.

An analysis of crime indicates that, for the most part, adolescents commit such violations as hooliganism and thefts, primarily of the objects that have a definite interest to them (bicycles, motive, photographic, radio apparatus, etc.). The share of the crimes against an individual is extremely insignificant. However, there have also been instances when adolescents have participated in the commission of heinous crimes, sometimes with features of brutality. I think that this is explained by the fact that, in certain families, the adolescents, from day to day, become witnesses of drunkenness, fights, and arguments. They get a distorted idea about good and evil.

Many children from unfortunate families prove to be under the influence of uncontrollable forces -- the streets, where they pick up their toughness and their cynicism. This is also promoted by certain foreign films that preach violence and elevate hardened criminals to practically the status of positive heroes.

Not only the family, but also the collectives at schools and PTU [vocational and technical schools] must combat manifestations that are alien to us, and must imbue in the students a respect for the existing norms of the law and morality.

In this regard, something that deserves attention is the experience of the Leningraders. Special commissions were formed there to combat lawbreakers.

I might add that the reason by adolescents commit various violations is frequently the fact that they are uninformed about the law. It is necessary to bring closer to the everyday living situations the study of the principles of Soviet law in the schools and other educational institutions.

The new law about administrative responsibility has banned the arresting for 15 days of those persons who are not yet 18 years of age. But it is precisely the adolescents who sometimes commit the boldest acts of hooliganism. I am convinced that a 16-year-old blockhead should himself answer for his actions.

V. Sokolovskiy, Salekhard

The adoption of the law suspending arrest for petty hooliganism with respect to minors was preceded by a large amount of analytical work. All the circumstances and possible consequences were carefully weighed and taken into consideration. In our opinion, the change in the law is a humanitarian and correct act. In my opinion, we have a sufficient number of other, more effective, measures for exerting influence upon teenage violators.

Frequently, in the street, you see a drunken fight or simply an act of hooliganism, while a militiaman is stimply walking past, with no intention of stopping it. He apparently feels that if this isn't his beat, he is not obliged to poke his nose in someone else's business. . .

V. Pol'skaya, Moscow

That does indeed occur. It happens, unfortunately, that workers in the militia do not react promptly to reports of violations, and simply walk past incidents of hooliganism, drunkenness, and improper behavior in the streets. We view these instances as emergency situations. They definitely become the object of careful official analysis and the guilty parties get the punishment that they deserve. We strive for a situation in which the militia workers execute in a flawless manner all their tasks, so that their actions are just and understandable, and are supported by the public. Without this support and aid, it would be practically impossible to count on success.

In conclusion I would like to re-emphasize: the smaller the number of hard-nosed, indifferent, passive people who fail to react the acts of hooliganism, drunkenness, speculation, unjustified enrichment, and defrauding of the state, the more purposefully the tasks of communist construction in our country will be resolved.

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NATIONAL

NEED TO REINTRODUCE RURAL THEMES INTO LITERATURE

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Dec 82 p 3

/Article by Mikola Oleynik: "A Common Concern: Artists and the Times"/

[Excerpts]Attention to people who work, to the creative, strong and purposeful personality is one of the better traditions of Soviet, and in particular of Ukrainian literature. One can cite an entire series of works in which the image of an active struggle for the party's great concern has found a worthy embodiment.

Here, however, is the puzzle: The tradition is being supported and even enriched, but there are still not enough books with ideological and artistic qualities permitting them to stand in the ranks of the better works among the Soviet classics. One also rarely encounters heroes whom one could perceive as artistic discoveries, who would influence people's behavior and profoundly reflect the people's fate.

Even books and stories about pressing themes, including those of well known authors, are based upon obsolete conflicts and situations. In them one does not feel the pulse of the times, there is nothing authentic in them, capable of "igniting the heart" with enthusiasm. To put it simpler, they stand by the side of the road. After all, it is easier (as was observed in the 1950's and 1960's) to "put together" a backward kolkhoz chairman or plant director who had served too long with a young agronomist or engineer full of strength and energy. Here everything was present: The old as old, the new as new -- on with it!

The CPSU Central Committee Decree: "On the Creative Ties of Literary-Artistic Journals with the Practice of Communist Construction" calls for the concentration of attention on the assimilation of new material and spiritual realities in our society, and the vivid demonstration of characteristics of the Soviet way of life. There should be no adaptation of old collisions under the rubric of the scientific and technical revolution, no search for compromise solutions, no idle scribbling, not leaving the comforts of the study, but creative, active participation in all the nation's work and concern.

I personally follow with great interest the work of such experienced prose writers as Yu. Mushketik and A. Moroz. In their work one senses a profound knowledge of the contemporary Ukrainian countryside's life and socio-economic problems. They try to show what is new, and what makes up the character and psychology of the peasant under the conditions of developed socialism.

As the CPSU Central Committee decree notes, it is now very important to help writers find their role in the struggle for the implementation of the Food Program. The Kiev writers' organization board has developed a series of measures directed at strengthening ties with production, with workers of field and farm. It includes, assistance [shefstvo] to collectives, guest meetings, the discussion of new works directly with readers, and, of course, creative travel assignments.

A recent republic conference on the theme: "Decisions of the May (1982) CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the Tasks of Literature and Art" held by creative unions in the Ukraine was interesting and informative. It was held at Mironovka, famous throughout the world for its wheat institute. Party workers, writers, film directors, artists, composers, specialists in agriculture and farm and field workers gave reports and speeches. The discussion was thorough, pointed, with specific claims and suggestions. It had a good beginning in a speech by twice Hero of Socialist Labor V. N. Remeslo, who explained the role of the science of selection in implementing the USSR Food Program and the new high yield grain varieties being introduced by the institute. The conference participants visited kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the region, where they became acquainted with modern agricultural practices and met with readers.

All this is good. However, are such measures alone sufficient for enriching art with actual vital content and for creating highly artistic works about contemporary events? It appears not! It is necessary to have the writer's personal initiative and interest in acquiring a thorough knowledge of new living and production conditions in the countryside and the new systems of spiritual values arising from these conditions. Large measures of responsibility and self-motivation are needed.

Even in the most difficult period of collectivization and the socialist reconstruction of the countryside, literature was not faced with the task of educating people in a love for the land, nature, and agricultural labor. Things were more simple then -- the village had an abundance of labor power, respect for grain growing was in the blood of agricultural workers. Now, alas, we observe, especially among young people, a neglect toward grain. The party's Food Program directs us not only towards the creation of an abundance of products, but also --and this is no less important -- towards educating people in a sense of being master [khozyain] of the land, a responsibility to maintain and multiply its riches, the elevation of this feeling to a category of citizenship, when everybody will act not to harm, but to help nature..

Heroine of Socialist Labor Lyubov' Andreyevna Lyubchenko, chairwoman of the Bol'shevik Kolkhoz in Zhitomir Oblast told me: "There is now a special demand made upon you writers. You must show the peasant's life in all its fullness, reflect its spiritual world and look into the future. It is sad when one reads a book and in it the village is shown one-sidedly, as being backward and without a future. "

Yes, upon hearing these just words one involuntarily feels indebted to rural workers. What is more, it is not only we writers who are in this situation but also people in film and theatre, and teachers as well. Towards what

professions did we direct young people in the recent past? Pilot, doctor, engineer, geologist, artist, sometimes steel worker, less frequently miner, or railroad worker. Only once in a while would someone dare to say a good word for the grain grower's work. Even now, to get to the point, are boys and girls properly shown the attractiveness and uniqueness of peasants' work?

Some public education system leaders, instead of purposefully acquainting children with socially useful labor, wait for some sort of "special instructions". I recently talked with one such individual. His main "trump card" was the lact of "orientation and methodological elaborations". In his words, just how can I go about any innovation without "blessings from above"? He was given a proper answer by a kolkhoz team worker who was present at the discussion.

"We are very watchful over our pupils. Some of them understand this correctly and try not to let down their educators, while others remain invalids. It begins with something small and ends with complaints throughout one's entire life."

True, nobody can doubt the successes of our educational system. However, something effective must be done to give young people a more realistic acquaintance with socially useful concerns. The slogan: "Everything better for children" should not cover up the main concern; that of educating the growing generation in an industrious attitude towards labor, for the fulfillment of elementary obligations in life. The prominent educator V. Sukhomlinskiy is a remarkable example of this understanding of the roles of school, society and the family.

Even in writers' circles one ever more frequently hears voices in favor of stricter principles in the formation of personalities. Writers have a right to be puzzled about how to give children even the most basic conditions of growth. It is very important to think about and understand it -- and this includes writers. The discussion is, after all, about the formation of the soul, character, physical and moral qualities of a new person, the one who, in the near future will have to take a lot upon his shoulders. This is the field upon which we must grow good young plants.

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INCREASED INTEREST IN ASTROLOGY, SPIRITUALISM DECRIED

Moscow ZHURNALIST in Russian No 10, Oct 82 pp 46-49

[Article by Dalila Akivis: "Thirst for a Miracle?"]

[Text] To the producer of the program "The Obvious -- The Incredible"

Dear Comrade Kapitsa,

The editorial office of our newspaper has received readers' letters with the following content: "For several weeks rumors have been flying around the city that on one of the broadcasts of 'The Obvious -- The Incredible' there was a discussion about a strange situation. A man became acquainted with a girl and took her one evening to a restaurant. He spilled wine on her dress and a spot remained there. When the man went to pick the girl up at her home the next evening, it turned out that she had died two years previously. When the grave was opened, the same dress with the spot was there. Experts stated that the spot was a fresh one, and had been put on the dress only a few days earlier.

We do not believe this story, but one hears it everywhere -- in the dining hall, in the clinic, from friends, etc. If it is not the truth, what is the origin of stories such as this, that the majority of people believe in?"

We decided to prepare editorial material concerning extrasensory processes of information transmittal, in which, in addition to other examples, we could use this one. However, in order to avoid any misunderstanding, we would like you to tell us whether, in the broadcasts of "The Obvious -- The Incredible," there has ever been anything that could give rise to such rumors.

Respectfully yours,
V. Sirik,
Chief of the Propaganda Department of the DZERZHINETS newspaper, Dneprodzerzhinsk, Dnepropetrovsk Oblast

"The train was making an ordinary run. Suddenly the engineer noticed a woman waving a handkerchief at him. He stopped the train, but there was

no woman there. He walked a little farther ahead and saw two children tied up and lying on the track. Their mother had died, and their stepmother had decided to get rid of them. According to the engineer's description, the woman who had been waving the handkerchief was the children's mother. We would very much like you to explain in your next broadcast whether this is really the truth?"

L. and V. Babay,
Kupyansk, Kharkov Oblast

Who would ever have thought that the question "Do ghosts really exist?" would prove to be such a vitally important one? The television studios have received so many letters that it was necessary to devote to that strange topic several minutes of valuable screen time. S. Kapitsa stated, for the entire nation to hear, a refutation of the swarming rumors and asserted that ghosts do not exist. He gently reproached the TV viewers for being so gullible and said that real scientific miracles are much more miraculous and improbable.

But that's enough about ghosts. Let's talk instead about people who believe in them. . . No, it can't really be that they believe in them.

The large package of letters to TsT [Central Television] can be divided into three parts. Some people believe unreservedly, but need confirmation to convince skeptics. The authors of letters in the second group are wavering. "We (children in the eighth grade) are not convinced that this is the truth." "I do not know whether to believe or not" (student at PTU [female student at occupational-trade school]). "You become flustered. The whole school is buzzing, but you do not know how to answer them" (teachers' letters). But if confirmation follows, all of them -- including the teachers! -- are ready to believe.

Finally, the third group of letters. Their authors definitely do not believe. They express themselves energetically: it's nonsense, delirious ravings, rubbish. And yet one can sense that even these people -- solid, steady, sensible people -- are somehow caught up by the fantastic story. This is attested to, in my opinion, simply by the fact that they have written to the editorial office, because we all complain that we're completely overworked and have been unable for months at a time to answer letters from near and dear ones, and yet here is a person who took the trouble to write, who is awaiting an answer, and who cannot forget.

I understand the journalists at the DZERZHINETS newspaper: the mechanism for the inception and epidemic spread of rumors (the more improbable the rumor, the more powerful the mechanism) is actually one of the most interesting subjects of research. What kind of energy is it that forces a "terrible" story to travel around the world in seven-league boots? I would like my beloved newspaper to print something that could resound throughout the world with the mouths of a hundred echoes!

The most miserable "C student" of today knows about his environment much of that which racked the brains of all the academies of sciences of the past century. But even educated, materialistically-minded citizens sometimes experience a strange need -- to rely on fate. To ask: heads or tails? Odd or even? We go on a bus and suddenly our lips start to move -- we are counting the numbers on the ticket. And we are pleased when it turns out that we're the lucky one!

I don't remember whether, after finding ourselves in the thirteenth car or in the thirteenth row, we have not said to ourselves, "This is an unlucky number." And yet even if someone does not know that token, he "reads about it in the papers," as the expression goes. "As for the 'unlucky' number 13 that the Romanian Olta Gurgui got, all things considered, the number 13 very infrequently causes her any difficulty," we read in MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS about the P. I. Chaykovskiy International Competition. Of course this is humor, a joke. But we do not forget. No, we do not forget!

It is ridiculous to say this, but faith in tokens (not blind faith, as in the case of some ignorant village crone, but nevertheless faith) constitutes some kind of thread in the fabric of our thought processes, our moods, our communication. We do not like to return. We do not like it when someone crosses our path carrying empty buckets. . . If I ask a friend, "Where are you going?", she involuntarily gives an evasive answer -- and, incidentally, she is a Candidate of Biological Sciences -- "Oh, here and there!" And if her trip proves to be unsuccessful, it turns out that I'm the one to blame!

Many people have their "lucky" dresses, their "lucky" trinkets. And also their "unlucky" ones. If a person's son is going to take an exam, he will invariably say, "Wish me bad luck!"

A reader asks in a letter: why, on a holiday, or on a joyous day in general, is it necessary to give as a present an uneven number of flowers, but for a funeral, an even number? What does this mean? Who established it? No one knows, but they follow the rule.

At one time it became improper to say to a person who had sneezed, "Be healthy!" So people didn't say it. But the old custom won out, because it's also a small incantation, a small mental preventive: everyone realizes that a person is not healthy or unhealthy because people wish him to be that way, but still people say it. And what about our custom of giving a toast? "Let's drink to such and such!" And everyone really gets excited about a catchy toast: yes, yes, we definitely have to drink to that! It's magic, shamanism!

I am interviewing a major administrator. He is talking about the plans for the future. Suddenly he says, "Knock on wood!" And he raps on the wooden surface of the desk.

The rumble of the centuries, my teacher, Vladimir Ivanovich Orlov, used to say. And that rumble is as loud as the roar of an airplane turbine. Certain fragments, and even crumbs of a view of life that have come down to us from our pagan ancestors, those Vyatichi and Krivichi, have survived, have become deeply entrenched in secret corners of our consciousness, and taken on the automatic nature of a speaking habit, a custom, or reflex action. And some of us add onto them our own creativity.

Isn't this really the simplest kind of mysticism? A person wants to gain power over the circumstances, to come to an agreement with fate or at least to outsmart it, to find out what awaits him tomorrow, or in a month or a year, to choose the true path, to make oneself secure, to organize one's good luck, just as we "organize" a trip ticket to a good sanatorium. Probably many people have noticed

that the more risk there is associated with one's occupation, the greater the number of tokens that permeate a person's contacts with the world. Pilots. Seamen. Athletes. Actors.

If this did not exist -- faith in a miracle, in lucky chance -- then none of the lotteries in the world would have any success. A little girl with a bow in her hair dips her little hand into a drum, or the very latest automatic device draws the winning "Sportloto" numbers on the TV screen -- it's all fate!

One might also remember a large number of those little words and actions, the absurd, insignificant, senseless ones from the point of view of "unadorned" common sense. But maybe it would be boring if our thought processes were completely cleared of that old rubbish. In any instance, we are chagrined and alarmed by manifestations of excessive sobriety or rationality in children. A small boy disdainfully turned away from the Father Christmas [Russian Santa Claus] and Snow Maiden who had been "ordered" for him by his parents to keep the custom going, and another one, who had scarcely begun to talk refused to listen to a fairy tale, saying, "There aren't any Baba Yagas,[witch in Russian fairy tales]."

We have become so accustomed to these petty peculiarities -- which probably pertain more to speech than to thought processes -- that they are part of us that neither the person who says, "Knock on wood!" nor the one who hears him say that, pays any special attention to them, and they do not analyze their thoughts or sensations in this regard.

But it also, apparently, happens that this mystical mood is intensified, becomes denser, begins to encourage a person to take certain actions.

It would seem that, as we come to the end of the twentieth century, one should only be able to see on the stage, during the presentation of Gogol's "The Wedding," a serious discussion about fortune-telling with cards. And yet I hear, in the chirping of two nice young ladies, "You know that fortune that you told me -- well, it all came true!". The "fortune-teller" lazily stretched and said, "The company doesn't make witches' brooms." Or in another dialogue from people walking past, "Don't you have a good fortune-teller? Well, why not? It's just the same thing as our asking acquaintances to recommend homeopathists, masseurs, or other rare but necessary specialists.

"Do you want to look at your horoscope?" I was a guest somewhere and my hostess was keeping my occupied. She gives me a few typed pages. I read, "A person who is born under the sign of a particular animal receives a number of innate properties, depending upon which his fate is determined. . . By knowing your year of birth, you will have no difficulty finding your animal and reading everything about the person born under that sign. . ."

I learn that people born the same year as I was born, that is in the year of the Ox, are "patient, laconic, and inspire trust. However, they can be eccentric and impatient, and can lose their temper easily. At such times one should beware of them, because their anger knows no bounds. . . Some of them look at love as though it were a sport (oho!), and this leads to misunderstandings with loved ones. . ."

And there are also horoscopes that correspond to the signs of the zodiac. I remember that once I was given a strong recommendation to beware of financial schemes. . .

How can they stand like neighbors on the same bookshelf -- those fortune-telling books and the magazines "Science and Life," "Science and Religion," and "Questions of Philosophy? How can the same little brain contain information and ideas derived from such incompatible sources? It would seem that that is possible.

I know people who possess entire libraries of manuals and aids of that type. Many of them take an attitude toward their treasures as though they were valuable collections (some people collect old locks, beer mugs, dog collars, samovar stopcocks, but I collect horoscopes). But there are a few people who, in all seriousness, attempt to seek out, in the hazy advice and parting words, the guiding thread -- especially at such moments of life when things are not going exactly right, or when one is threatened by unpleasant situations, or has to make an important decision . . . From where do these educated, well-read, intellectual persons get this need? Could it be from their inner insecurity, from the awareness of their own spiritual weakness? Or could it be that, by virtue of various circumstances, they have found themselves in a situation when very little depends upon the person himself? Or that they simply lose control of themselves when faced by the complexities of life, by the unpredictable surprises with which life is so lavish? Actually, what a tremendous burden it is -- those decisions that so much depends on, both today and in the future, and which have to be made immediately, without any postponement! And how easy it probably becomes when there is someone to hide behind, someone to shift the blame to. . . Yes, yes, however ridiculous it seems, this is a sprouting of bureaucratic methods in the most intimate sphere of everyday life. At that moment there is also present the idea: first I want someone to sanction this order for me, and I want someone of higher rank to put his seal of approval on it. . .

Last year I happened to be at a summer-cottage area for a short period of time. For the most part the population consisted of scientific workers. Suddenly everyone became caught up in a frenzy of spiritualism. Every evening they would spin a saucer until they fell under the table from exhaustion. The young daughter of the host and hostess proved to be a superior-class medium -- in her presence the spirits of famous writers and scientists "responded" instantaneously and "answered" all the questions clearly and intelligently. There was an especially large number of questions about an impending reorganization in a scientific institution. The fiancee of the institution director entered the company and took the role of an expert, checking the spirits for their level of information.

A scene on a train. A lady who appears to be a professor is traveling with her student daughter. They wake up in the morning and grab the latest dream book: "I dreamt about a giraffe with a short neck. What did that mean?"

That's a strange kind of retrogression: chiromancy, spiritualism, astrology. . . At one time they were scandalously popular. Then they were justifiably ridiculed and rejected. But now they are rising from the dead here and there, and are also exploiting the achievements of those very sciences with the aid of which they were at one time destroyed. For example, each one of the stories about ghosts that I began this article with, involves a statement by experts. Apparently it would be completely impossible to enter the age of scientific-technical progress without that entourage! But even with that entourage, obscurantism remains obscurantism.

And here is something else that is curious. Black magic joins up with a burning interest in the super-new -- the discovery of biorhythms and biopoles -- and in the appearance of extrasensory phenomena and other things of that nature. At this time we shall not deal with the essence of those phenomena or their scientific treatment. We are interested in their reflection in the mass consciousness. It can be easily seen that passions become white hot: some journalists pontificate loudly about new, as yet unexplained phenomena and they hail them. Others reject them outright as senseless and harmful delusion: "This doesn't exist because it cannot be." And even (I quote from an article that was recently published) they reproach their opponents for "slipping downwards along the inclined plan of idiotism." It is as though, by calling your opponent names, you can actually get rid of him!

And so these bitter arguments, these stories, rumors, and bits of gossip about unexpected manifestations of human nature continue to fly around the cities and the countryside. If it were possible somehow to ascertain the sphere in which this information circulates, I think that its scope would prove to be even broader than in the instance with ghosts. Especially since only one question would be resolved: to believe or not to believe, or something more complicated: to follow or not to follow.

Here, for example, is a letter about the Kosmos [Outer Space] Club, a "club for the comprehensive self-improvement of man," which was created on the basis of the Palace of Culture imeni M. I. Kalinin, in the Moscow suburb of Kaliningrad.

"Will I, a person who has never engaged in sports or physical conditioning, be able to run for more than two hours in subfreezing weather, wearing only a sport shirt? It turns out that I would be able to! After running for two and a half hours, there flashed past us, unnoticed, two villages, fields, forests, several oncoming buses, from which surprised faces looked at us. All that time I felt behind me some kind of constant invisible help and I sensed that I was a particle in that entire group that was untiringly running across the snow-covered land. Why hadn't I known of that earlier? My heart was filling over with the joy of self-recognition, the joy of having acquired confidence about my own powers, and gratitude to my new friends. . . Back at the dining hall at the rest base, work that was unusual for the cooks was under way: a dinner was being cooked without meat, without eggs, without fish, without salt and sugar, without tea or coffee -- only raw vegetables, juices, and dried fruit."

The letter states that at the present time that club has more than a thousand people who are united by the striving for physical and moral improvement. And this is not the only association of people who have been caught up by the miracle of rejuvenation, the prolongation of life, the overcoming of diseases. One might assume that these groups do not exactly fit into the category of "miracles" that we are considering, inasmuch as they do not include any elements of mysticism, but, on the contrary, are completely material in aspect. Diets, fasts, drinking of water only, the eating of raw vegetables, vegetarianism -- some of these things mortify the flesh, and others, in a special kind of way, pamper it. But I think that there is something in common. It is the desire to believe in a miracle. What to eat and what not to eat is not only an intimate detail of life, but also, as it were, a conviction, a movement. And that movement has been broadly seized up by the press. Many newspapers popularize methods of treatment, physical conditioning, and of becoming thin, which do not always emanate from strict scientific experience. And if one reads these articles attentively, one can discern two diverging

tendencies: the desire to find some kind of scientific explanation for the facts that appear to the writer to be indisputable, and, on the other hand, the desire to explain nothing, to let things remain mysterious, incomprehensible, and bewitching (yes, that widely used word does contain the root "witch," "fortune-teller"!. . .).

. . . I have never engaged in these problems and did not particularly go out of my way to find material. Everything that has been written made its way to me by the completely random flow of life. But it is sufficient to establish that the borderline between the natural and the supernatural, between "it can be" and "it cannot be," is a precise, even, and -- as is proper for a border -- vigilantly guarded, but which, in certain sectors, has been eroded and shifted to the right and to the left, forming a rather extensive no-man's territory. And it is there that anarchy and chaos reign. That is why even complete nonsense -- someone went to see an old lady in order to get some powder to cast a spell on an unfaithful man, or someone, at one time, is supposed to have cast the "evil eye" on a child -- may to some people, even a person who at first glance seems to be an "intellectual," seem to be not too far-fetched or absurd.

What, then, is happening? Why is it that the people about whom we have spoken do not see the borderline between -- let's not be afraid to call it outright -- obscurantism and phenomena that have not yet been interpreted by science?

There are probably many reasons for this. I do not want to direct my attention to one reason: the unusually high increase of interest in the unusual.

And so I wrote that the human soul thirsts for a miracle. Naturally, that is not my discovery. The expectation of a miracle, the placing of one's hopes on a miracle -- for a long time psychologists have noted and studied that property of the human psyche, one of the motivating forces for human activity.

But the situation with regard to miracles is rather strained, as the expression goes. The sensitivity threshold has been raised so high that a person can actually break from the tension of thinking up how to be surprised. People have already become accustomed to outer space and to thinking machines.

A certain saturation point has been reached: stupendous discoveries can be made, and true steps into the unknown can be taken, and we perceive them with a sense of satisfaction. We are not fools, thank God, but as for forgetting about everything and dashing off a letter to the newspaper or TV -- "either confirm it, or I don't know what will happen to me" -- no, that is too much for many people.

And if people amuse themselves by playing ghosts, one should think about how to resurrect their dulled ability to be surprised. A newspaper or TV sensation that is, in essence, healthy is capable of crowding out sepulchral claptrap.

That is one facet of the problem. But it is not the only one.

We work feverishly to provide food for the reader's mind. But is it only his mind that needs food?

Over and over again I read letters about ghosts and I am convinced that it is not only the supernatural that makes these stories so attractive. Absolutely everyone

caught the feeling that the young girl who has appeared from the other world has loved and has been loved. It was specifically that feeling that forced her to arise from the grave. And it was the same thing with the mother who broke the laws of nature in order to save her children from death.

The force of love -- that is what people have "deducted" from this improbable subject matter. But that subject matter has become for them an unexpected and powerful confirmation of the fact that a loving heart is capable of performing any miracles. But why did they need such confirmation if, for the sake of it -- and together with it -- they have swallowed everything else!

A person tries to foresee his fate, he attempts to avoid bad luck, he wants to be assured that everything will be all right. This also is a very important condition for the stability of his inner world. But is it actually so that everything is all right?

People lose those who are near and dear to them. They suffer wrongs. They suffer bitterly from the selfishness and callousness of those around them. The sense of insecurity is encountered in everyday life not too infrequently at all, as one can imagine from items in the newspapers. Do we help the reader to overcome that feeling? Do we know how to teach him to gain bravery and strength of spirit in real life, rather than in an illusory world?

Flowing in the blood of every real journalist is the desire to help. And it is not only with the force of the printed word. I constantly see my comrades gathering book references, setting up consultative sessions with medical luminaries for someone, meeting people, seeing them off, and organizing lodging. And if it is impossible for a person to help someone else by deed, then only one other thing remains -- to ease his pain specifically by word, to sympathize with him, to feel for him, to calm him down. It is the art of recognizing that need and of easing a person's mind. But do many people possess it?

Let us finally ask ourselves the question: is Sergey Petrovich Kapitsa correct by reproaching us for being gullible? Science itself shifts the boundary between "it can be" and "it cannot be" with such speed that we cannot keep up with our fantasies. Everyone remembers many instances when the scientists themselves have returned to that which, at one time, they themselves had disdainfully rejected -- not even considering the "pseudoscience" of genetics or the "pseudoscience" of cybernetics. Therefore it is completely reasonable that people take a certain caution in their approach to the extrasensational -- if one may express it that way -- information: it doesn't seem to be the truth, but it might be true! Then, later on, you might not seem to be retrogressing. . . And so our gullibility is of a special kind, and in far from all instances does it attest to our predisposition to mysticism. Previously the noncritical attitude of the reader proceeded from the meagerness of knowledge, the mysteriousness of nature, and faith in the supernatural. Now, it seems to me, the situation is just the reverse: it is fed by the rapidly oncoming, but not always profound information.

A very large number of people (and this includes journalists no less than others) are, to a high degree, typified by the sin of half-knowledge. We have heard a bit about everything that this so-called higher education without any secondary education is what makes it possible for fantasy to splash up over any banks. When you approach a person from the world of science, he first will tell you an

instructive parable about how, "in a certain newspaper," his ideas were distorted and reduced to the point of absurdity -- and you do not dare to object, because you are being told the truth, albeit bitter. Sergey Obraztsov, speaking recently on television, stated, "Journalists are people who do not know anything, but are interested in everything." And isn't that right? Did the newspapers refute that statement? Did the Union of Journalists demand satisfaction? Alas, . . .

And therefore it sometimes happens that the thirst for a miracle, a thirst that sometimes tires the mass reader, begins to lead after it the newspaper man also. And then the newspapers beging printing reports "from the outer reaches of science" to the effect that, in modest corners of the world, people 15 feet tall have been discovered. . . And the very fact that the publication appeared is, for the reader, something like a test for a golden article. Therefore at the present time a question that is especially acute is that of not undermining the reader's confidence and of not doing anything to compromise it.

A precise and apparently the most intelligent principle has been worked out by the television program "The Obvious -- The Incredible." Any fact -- whether it be an ordinary or an unordinary one, a commonplace one or a fantastic one, or even a hypothesis or a rumor -- can become the subject of conversation, but with one proviso: it must be provided with skilled commentary. This a rule that could boldly be recommended to everyone. But executing that requirement, unfortunately, is no simple matter. There is a large number of major scientists who refuse to cooperate with television or with mass-readership publications. We ourselves are partially to blame for this, as was already mentioned, but it is not a matter for us to resolve. Up until now, despite the fruitful work carried out by remarkable masters of popular science, a prejudice against it exists in scientific circles. If something is popular, then it must necessarily mean that it is vulgar. A certain role, obviously, is also played by the lack of desire to bring before the broad public any ideas that have not been completely thought out, or any unverified views. However that may be, because of the impossibility of finding a sufficiently authoritative specialist in the field of medicine or neurophysiology, "The Obvious -- The Incredible" has never once had a detailed discussion about extrasensory phenomena. And it precisely for that reason, probably, that lacunae develop, where no sound scientific information exists and where any kind of absurdity can flourish.

The psychological and social roots of the newly manifested "fruits of enlightenment could probably be discussed still more. But it is important to come to an understanding about the most important thing. The matter is, of course, nonjocular. A person's view of the world is the very core of every ideology. But can there be much benefit if we pretend that we do not notice anything, or if we begin to call fools those who have been vacillating? This can lead, in my opinion, only to a situation in which the interest in the unusual will double: people will begin looking for reports about this in the newspapers about the former situation, and the latter will be spread by word of mouth independently, without anyone waiting for any confirmation from anyone else. Like no other topic, this one requires not a hush-up policy, but, on the contrary, it requires intelligent discussion.

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NEW ASSIGNMENTS AT 'SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA', HISTORY JOURNAL

Moscow ZHURNALIST in Russian No 10, Oct 82 p 74

[Article: "Assignments"]

[Excerpts] Valeriy Petrovich Lysenko has been approved as editor of the SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA newspaper for the science and educational institutions department.

He was born in 1944. He completed Moscow University. He has worked for the press since 1966. He has been an editor of the TASS agricultural editorial board, a literary contributor to the ZHURNALIST magazine, and a special correspondent of the Moscow Oblast newspaper LENINSKOYE ZNAMYA. He has been on the editorial board of the SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA newspaper since 1973. He has been a literary contributor, special correspondent and deputy editor for the agricultural department.

Grigoriy Nikolayevich Sevost'yanov has been approved as editor-in-chief of the NOVAYA I NOVEYSHAYA ISTORIYA magazine.

He was born in 1916. He completed the Novocherkasskiy Polytechnical Institute and the Higher Diplomatic School of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 1950 to 1968 he worked as a scientific associate in the History Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Since 1968, he has been the chief of the United States and Canada History Sector of the USSR Academy of Sciences General History Institute. He was the editor-in-chief of "Amerikanskiy Yezhegodnik" [The American Yearbook] and a member of the editorial boards of the 9-volume "Vsemirnaya istoriya" [World History] and the 11-volume "Istoriya vtoroy mirovoy voyny 1939-1945" [The History of the Second World War 1939-1945]. He is a doctor of historical sciences and a professor.

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RELIGION DESCRIBED 'SINGLE' LEGAL SOURCE OF ANTISOCIALIST IDEOLOGY IN NATION

Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 12 Dec 82 p 2

[Article by V. Nosovich, candidate of philosophical sciences: "The Facets and Limits of Modernism"]

[Excerpt] The assertion can sometimes be heard that ideological modernism in the activity of religious organizations is nothing more than putting a good face on a bad business, and is merely a tactic in making an accommodation in crisis conditions. There is some truth in this, but only some. The church is a social institution and not a divine establishment. Consequently the nature and main directions of its activities, even if inconstant, are nevertheless a reflection of the circumstances of social life typical of the age. And therefore many church officials are quite sincere in their attempts to place religion at the service of progressive ideals, even if these ideals do have a religious basis. It is quite illegal [nepravomernyy] to criticize them for this, and even more so to "expose" them. To act in this way means objectively to weaken, for example, efforts in the struggle for peace and to introduce into the peace movement a split in matters that are immaterial for the movement. Likewise, any criticism of religious censure of moral defects such as drunkenness, crime, parasitism and so forth, is also utterly senseless.

At the same time, however, one extraordinarily important circumstance should not be lost from view. Religion is the only legal form in which any organized and purposefully propagandized ideology alien to communism is permitted in our society. It is not fortuitous that it is precisely religious propaganda that is beginning to play an increasingly important part in the plans of anticommunism; for the values dear to and undertstood by every person of good will are brought to the forefront here: peace, freedom, moral purity. Attachment to these values can grow into a positive assessment of religion in general, into the opinion that it is highly valuable. As one of today's eminent Orthodox theologians N.A. Zabolotskiy says, " the kingdom of God is greater than anything seen in history"; and this should be understood as a hidden assertion of the relative imperfection of communist society compared with the Christian social ideal. The highest goal pursued by the professional and nonprofessional defenders of religion is the confirmation in public opinion of the conviction that, as the theologian A. Osipov writes, "there is a profound relationship between religion and the nature of man and religion's comprehensive justification in historical, social and individual experience."

All this undoubtedly complicates the process by which the scientific, materialist world outlook is spread and asserted, and it places special demands on our propaganda work. It is a matter of enhancing its scientific nature, with strict observance of Leninist political principles in the religious question. V.I. Lenin's last philosophical work, his own kind of philosophical legacy, whose 60th anniversary we recently marked, bears the title "On the Significance of Militant Materialism." Its main thought is the need for consistent struggle against all kinds of idealism and religion; in today's conditions it has acquired special significance. It is not by chance that in recent years the CPSU has repeatedly adopted decrees on improving and activating the system of atheistic education. In party documents the impermissibility is stressed--from the communist world-outlook viewpoint--of using the patriarchate or of dredging up the ideas about the progressive cultural-historical mission of religion and church and the identity of national and religious values. The essence of religion has not been able to change, and it cannot do so now, because if this essence is changed, a new quality appears. And this is no longer religion, but something else. Consequently, it cannot be changed, smoothed over or made to disappear while religion exists, and it is fundamentally incompatible with the scientific world outlook and with Marxism-Leninism. This is a truism of atheism.

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'NOVOYE VREMYA' ON SOVIET CENTRAL ASIAN DEMOGRAPHY

PM141433 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 2, 7 Jan 83 p 31

[Albert Pin "Conversation With a Reader"; first graf is reader's query]

[Text] In Issue No 43 (1982) you talked about the solution of the nationalities question in your country. Are you not apprehensive about encountering, in the very near future, such a problem as a Muslim resurgence? I know from our press that the Muslim population of Soviet Central Asia is growing considerably faster than the population in Russia and the other republics. [Signed] Hans Dietrich, Munich, FRG.

Esteemed Mr Dietrich, I have often read and heard these opinions. "Sovetologists" and other enemies of ours are fond of talking about the "Muslim demographic explosion in the USSR" and about the threat it allegedly poses to the existence of our multinational state.

First of all I want to draw your attention to the distortion of the facts in this propaganda scheme. Quite wrongly its authors (and I see you wittingly or unwittingly follow them) equate nationality with people's religious beliefs. Muslims, you will agree, are those who profess Islam. There was a time when the Muslim religion and ideology did rule the minds of the inhabitants of Central Asia. But that time is past. During the years of Soviet power the people's life has changed, as has their consciousness. The majority of the population has broken away from religion--be it Islam, Orthodoxy or Catholicism.

Certainly, the beliefs and customs which were established over the ages are still apparent today. There are people here (mainly elderly folk) who still observe religious rites and ceremonies. But they are few, and sociologists' figures corroborate this. In Uzbekistan, for example, research in four oblasts showed that only 11.7 percent of the workers and 5.5 percent of the employees who took part in the poll were under the influence of religion. In Karakalpak ASSR (part of Uzbekistan) the proportion of believers in the rural population over the age of 18 is only 11.4 percent.

In short, contrary to the "Sovietologists'" calculations, religious prejudices are gradually dying out. General Soviet, socialist, internationalist values take pride of place in the masses' consciousness. The entire 60-year history

of the USSR demonstrates that the peoples of the Soviet East have plumped once and for all the socialist, for the fraternal union of working people of various nationalities. It is therefore absurd to continue to call them "Muslims," let alone to talk about a "Muslim resurgence."

In all the union republics, including those of Central Asia, people are living and working together harmoniously, people of indigenous nationalities and many others besides. According to the figures of the recent 1979 all-union census, 26.4 percent of the population is not Ukrainian; the figure for Georgia is 31.2, for Latvia 46.3, for Uzbekistan 31.3, for Turkmenia 31.6, for Tajikistan 41.2, for Kirghizia 52.1 and for Kazakhstan 64 percent. As you can see, in Kirghizia and in Kazakhstan Kirghizes and Kazakhs even constitute less than one-half of the republics' populations. This is easily explained. The rapid development of Soviet Central Asia and Kazakhstan (remember, for instance, the massive task of opening up the virgin lands of Kazakhstan) would have been impossible without the fraternal assistance of all the republics of the USSR. They sent not only technology and equipment but also people, above all specialists. Many of those who came developed an attachment to the land in which they had invested so much labor and they put down roots, so to speak, and stayed for good.

Of course, in no way does this encroach on the rights of the nationalities who gave their names to the republics; it does not change their status, neither does it reduce the concern for the development of native languages and cultures. Equally, the citizens of nonindigenous nationalities enjoy the same rights and opportunities; everything is done to satisfy their particular interests in the sphere of language, culture and everyday life.

It can rightly be said that the friendship of the peoples and their spiritual affinity have become part and parcel of our life. On tours of Central Asia I have often seen that choice of friends, for example, is less and less determined by nationality, but more often by a person's spiritual qualities. I have met there families which raised children of many nationalities during the difficult war and postwar years. Belonging to different national groups is no longer a significant obstacle to the creation of a family....

As for the birthrate in the Central Asian republics, it is high, certainly. We make no secret of it. Let me quote the census figures: in 1979 the USSR population as a whole showed a 9 percent increased compared with 1970; the population of Kazakhstan increased over the same period by 13 percent, it increased in Kirghizia by 20 percent, in Turkmenia by 28 percent, in Uzbekistan by 30 percent and in Tajikistan by 31 percent. How did this come about? It is partly due to the surviving tradition of early marriage and large families. But is also due to the improvement in people's well-being, successes in the health care sphere which were the result of all-round progress in these former national backwaters of czarist Russia, and the achievements of our entire united family of socialist nations. In this case it is undoubtedly correct to talk about the resurgence of the Central Asian peoples and the flourishing of their native land. This can only bring us joy.

Of course, the speedier growth of the population in particular parts of the country does create certain problems. But not of the kind our enemies bleat about. We are bound to be concerned about the rational utilization of the manpower of republics and regions in the interests of the state as a whole. In places where there is a manpower surplus, especially in the countryside, production units essential to the national economy are being set up and skilled workers of indigenous nationalities are being trained. There must be a substantial improvement in the standard of vocational guidance and training of young people in these regions in order to recruit more of them for work on developing new territories.

Ultimately, it is a matter of further increasing the material and spiritual potential of every republic and, at the same time, making maximum use of it for the harmonious development of the whole multinational state. These are not simple tasks. But we have abundant experience and great opportunities. Indeed we solved in a brief historical period a most complex problem: We raised Russia's former national backwaters to the center's level of development and ensured actual equality of the peoples. We have written about this more than once in the magazine. It remains for me to recommend that you, Mr Dietrich, read what we publish. If, of course, you want a more intimate knowledge of Soviet reality.

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BELORUSSIA IMPROVING FARM LIVING CONDITIONS

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Oct 82 p 3

[Article by ZVYAZDA correspondent V. Roshchin, Minsk: "What Novoselki Disclosed: The Food Program -- Social Aspects"]

> [Text] For the peasant farmer a house is a problem which includes many vital items pertaining to rural life: production, social-services, and cultural. The party considers finding a solution to this problem to be one of the paramount tasks pertaining to improving housing conditions for farm families. L. I. Brezhnev noted at the May (1982) CPSU Central Committee Plenum: "Measures pertaining to social reconstruction of the village are an organic part of the Food Program. What we have in mind is construction of decent housing, chiefly of the farmstead type, with farm buildings for the family's private subsidiary farm operation."

The time of debates over what rural housing should be is past in Belorussia. The republic's Gosstroy has recommended, and BelNIIgiprosel'stroy and the Belkolkhozproyekt Institute have produced a good many interesting designs of comfortable, attractive detached single-family houses and duplexes with subsidiary farm buildings. A decree issued by the Central Committee of the Belorussian Communist Party and the republic Council of Ministers calls for increasing their percentage share in new construction. The decree specifies for the 11th Five-Year Plan concrete measures to improve living conditions for the rural populace and improvement in construction and provision of public services and amenities in our villages.

The people in Postavskiy Rayon, Vitebsk Oblast well remember the difficult situation in which the Kolkhoz imeni Suvorov found itself. They were short of manpower and specialists. Losses mounted year by year. Young people were leaving for the city. Today letters are flooding in. People are writing from neighboring towns and villages, asking to be taken into the kolkhoz. It took a great deal of labor and effort on the part of village party members and the chairman, A. Volod'ko, to boost the farming operation, to make it profitable, to make it a leading farm. Where did they begin? With concern for the people, their needs and aspirations, so that their lives would become more pleasant and they would enjoy their work.

Novoselki [new homes], the central farmstead, lives up to its name. Everything here is new, of high quality, and well appointed. The brick homes are spacious. They are hooked up to water, steam heat, and gas. The community also includes a store, a restaurant, a hotel, and a kindergarten. On the edge of the community is a large school with a swimming pool. Construction plans include a hospital, a bath and laundry combine, and a recreation center. Kolkhoz housing presently totals more than 100 dwelling units, a figure which is to double by the end of the five-year plan.

This is one aspect. Another is the good working conditions. The farm machinery operators have heated garages and well-equipped maintenance shops. Work here is organized as at an industrial enterprise, pay is high, and incentives are offered. They have also eliminated the manpower problem in livestock raising. Machinery has come to the assistance of the milkmaids.

As stated above, all these gratifying changes began in large measure with the arrival of a new, energetic manager. He was the one who brought forth the initiative to renovate the village. Party members and the board supported the kolkhoz chairman. A construction brigade was formed. We know, however, how difficult the locally-financed method of operation is without plan-specified provision of materials. It is necessary literally to travel throughout the republic and beyond -- to request, to "dislodge" materials and equipment. Some managers, after considering all the problems, will merely shrug their shoulders and give up the idea of building anything. It is not surprising that on half of the kolkhozes in that same Postavskiy Rayon no housing was built in the last five-year plan. Such a contrast can also be observed in other rayons and oblasts.

What is the reason for this? To answer this question, let us return to Novoselki. From the very outset they preferred to build detached housing. They also needed several two-story buildings, as some people wanted to live in such housing. It was decided to erect a 27-unit building -- for teachers, engineers, and other specialists. A contractor was soon found to put up this building. Detached houses with farm buildings are for the time being the "privilege" of kolkhoz construction workers. The situation is typical. The contractor seeks to build upward, as they say; it is easier for him to erect multistory buildings.

This example is typical. Several ministries and organizations are presently building in the Belorussian village, primarily the Ministry of Rural Construction, the Belmezhkolkhozstroy and Glavpoles'yevodstroy associations. In setting up their construction schedules, up until recently the big construction organizations avoided taking contracts for farmstead-type buildings. Essentially their production facilities were unprepared for the rural housing construction structure recommended by BSSR Gosstroy, according to which three fourths of new housing should consist of single-family homes and cottages with farm buildings. Nor could the farms handle this volume of construction with their own manpower and resources.

Unquestionably kolkhoz and sovkhoz construction crews are accomplishing a great deal, transforming the Belorussian village. In the 10th Five-Year Plan they

performed almost one fourth of all construction. Construction administrations have been established on some farms, such as the Rassvet Kolkhoz imeni K. P. Orlovskiy. It is also said that it is less expensive to build facilities with local resources, although labor expenditures are the same. On the other hand, however, construction with local resources diverts considerable manpower away from agricultural jobs. And the main thing is that it prevents construction from being handled in an extensive manner, as an aggregate. It is necessary to reorient contractor organizations in order to satisfy rural demand for construction of homes primarily of the farmstead type and social-cultural facilities.

Capital investment planning is also a restraining factor. For example, USSR and BSSR Gosplans specified for the republic Ministry of Agriculture the planned cost per square meter of housing at 188 rubles. The figure for the last five-year plan was adopted as the basis. But in view of the new demands pertaining to providing housing with improved comfort and amenities and expanded construction of farmstead-type houses with subsidiary structures, the average cost per square meter of housing is increasing. Experts claim that in Belorussia it will reach 310 rubles in the 11th Five-Year Plan. One can easily imagine the possible rural housing shortfall.

Today the countenance of our village is a mosaic of diversity. Magnificent communities have gone up. There are many of these, and this is gratifying. Nevertheless at the present time there are more villages which have as yet been untouched by reconstruction. And the problem of keeping a permanently-residing population in these communities is becoming more acute with each passing year. We must make every effort to disseminate amassed construction experience and know-how. How should today's village look in order that it be attractive? Several model communities have been built in Belorussia. The central farmsteads of the Lenino, Malech, Progress and Chyrvonaya Zmena kolkhozes have become our pride and joy. Answers have been obtained to many questions, including answers connected with optimal construction variants. But can we consider the purpose of the experiment completely achieved? Of course not. We must go further, for erection of farmstead-type homes using industrial methods is just beginning.

On what basis should it be accomplished? The BSSR Ministry of Rural Construction has adopted a new innovation -- reinforced concrete buildings poured on-site. The Belmezhkolkhozstroy Association is expanding large-panel building construction. Two plants -- the Ivatsevichi and Lida -- have been converted over to the production of standardized components for single-family houses and cottages with farm buildings. The association has decided to do all construction in a community in Brest Oblast with these buildings. Employees of the Vostochnoye interkolkhoz pork production enterprise will soon receive 133 dwelling units in single-family houses and duplexes in a new housing development. In addition to erecting farmstead homes of large panels, they are also testing architectural designs and interior layouts. Belmezhkolkhozstroy plans to complete 635 such houses this year. By the end of the five-year plan general contractors will complete 12,000 dwelling units in farmstead-type houses. This will be a contribution by Belorussia's rural construction people toward implementation of the Food Program.

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PROCEDURES ADOPTED FOR CREATING SUBSIDIARY FARMS AT LATVIAN ENTERPRISES

Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 19 Nov 82 p 3

[Unattributed article, published under the heading "Official Section" (LatINFORM): "On the Procedure of Creating Subsidiary Farms"]

[Text] The Latvian SSR Council of Ministers has issued a decree entitled: "On the Procedure of Creating Subsidiary Farms of Enterprises, Establishments and Organizations in the Latvian SSR." The decree ratifies proposals by Latvian SSR Gosplan and the Latvian SSR Ministry of Agriculture on these matters. In conformity with this it is stipulated that subsidiary farming operations shall be established primarily on state reserve lands and lands of the Latvian SSR State Forest Fund, as well as on the land of enterprises, establishments, and organizations. These farms may be of several types: large (500-1000 hectares of agricultural land) farms with a complete crop and livestock production cycle; medium subsidiary farms (200-500 hectares), specializing in livestock production; small farms (up to 200 hectares) for the production of meat, vegetables, fruits, berries, and concentrated feeds (feed grains).

The proposals contain a description of various types of farms, specify their tasks and means of handling problems of design, construction and renovation, land improvement, logistic support, etc.

The Council of Ministers has instructed the republic's Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Forestry and Forest Industry as soon as possible to settle the matter of allocating land in 1983-1984 for organizing subsidiary farms of enterprises, establishments, and organizations. The procedure of submitting requests for assigning land has been specified, and routine administrative matters have been settled.

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MEASURES ADOPTED TO COMBAT AGRICULTURAL MISMANAGEMENT, PROPERTY LOSSES

Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 19 Nov 82 p 3

[Unattributed article, published under the heading "Official Section" (LatINFORM): "Improving Protection of Socialist Property"]

[Text] In the Latvian SSR Council of Ministers decree entitled "On the Work of the Executive Committee of the Kuldigskiy Rayon Soviet on Coordination and Unification of the Efforts of Government Agencies and Volunteer Public Agencies Pertaining to Protecting Socialist Property and Combating Abuses in the area of Serving the Public," the performance of this rayon executive committee in the specified area is declared inadequate and requiring considerable improvement. The decree orders that effective measures be taken to step up the campaign against thefts of socialist property and mismanagement, as well as abuses in the domain of public services. Toward this end the decree specifies stepping up the activities of volunteer law enforcement stations in preventing violations, with their work to be coordinated with law enforcement agencies and volunteer inspection agencies.

The decree demands that concrete measures be taken to reduce livestock losses to epizootic murrain on our farms, to strengthen labor discipline of stockmen and veterinary service workers, and to make the guilty parties answer before the law. It is stressed that it is essential to improve record keeping and storage of feeds and other assets on kolkhozes and sovkhozes, and to increase the personal liability of officials and other personnel for damage caused. Greater demands should also be imposed on farm managers and personnel of the legal and inspection-auditing service of the rayon agroindustrial association for unconditional performance of their duties, as stipulated by law, pertaining to identifying persons guilty of causing loss or damage to the economy and making them pay damages for such loss.

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STRUGGLE AGAINST ARMED CRIMINALS IN MOLDAVIA CONTINUES

[Editorial Report] Kishinev KOMMUNIST MOLDAVII in Russian No 11, Nov 82 pp 40-45 carries a 4,000-word article titled "Given Birth to by the Revolution, Devoted to the Interests of the People" by N. Bradulov, Minister of Internal Affairs of the Moldavian SSR. Bradulov describes the struggle of the Moldavian internal affairs bodies with criminal elements and notes that a number of officials have lost their lives in the struggle against such people. He also stresses that the professional qualifications of these officials have improved markedly over the last 15 years.

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SOCIOLOGICAL STUDIES INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT IN PARTY WORK

[Editorial Report] Kishinev KOMMUNIST MOLDAVII in Russian No 11, Nov 82 pp 46-52 carries a 5400-word article titled "The Development of Historical Party Science in Moldavia" by A. Korenyev. The article describes recent research in this area and suggests that sociological research is playing an ever larger role in guiding party decision-making and checking the fulfillment of decisions.

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